

FBIS

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The Soviet Union had to take counteraction. It began testing its own antisatellite weapons. But this happened considerably later, and in 1983 these tests were discontinued and have not been resumed since. The U.S.S.R. has announced its readiness for the radical solution of the problem through agreement on the renunciation of all tests of such systems, the prohibition of new systems and the abolition of the existing ones. Our country undertook a unilateral commitment not to orbit antisatellite weapons of any kind so long as other countries refrained from doing so. The problem could have been removed from the agenda had Washington not begun to develop at an accelerated pace new generations of anti-satellite systems -- both "kinetic" (missiles and shells) and laser beam devices. Paradoxically enough, this move is now being served up as a "counter-measure."

What is being developed and tested in the U.S. is a fundamentally new class of "star wars" strike systems, and to this new threat the Soviet Union will be compelled, as hitherto, to reply. What will this lead to? To the new round in the arms race Moscow warned against in advance. But, despite the terrible consequences with which it is fraught, work on the ASAT programme was stepped up after the Reagan administration took over. The new-generation ASAT, equipped with a miniature self-homing device, is a two-stage missile carried by the F-15 fighter. Forty testing ground trials have shown that any plane of this type can be converted into an ASAT carrier and can be used in various operational conditions to destroy targets in low orbit. To start with, it is proposed to station two squadrons of ASAT-carrying F-15's on the East and West coasts of the United States. The system was fired into outer space twice last year, and on September 13 this year the first IN-FLIGHT [uppercase words printed in boldface] test using an actual target was carried out. The satellite Solwind was destroyed at an altitude of more than 450 kilometres.

You will probably recall that last year U.S. legislators withheld funds for ASAT tests pending assurances from Reagan that the U.S. wants to conclude an arms control agreement with the U.S.S.R. setting strict limitations on anti-satellite systems. Yet it is precisely the White House that refuses to enter into any such agreement.

Many Congressmen have already awakened to the facts. At a Washington press conference, Representative George Brown of California said that President Reagan holds that an agreement on anti-satellite weapons would not accord with the national interests of the United States. Why? The point is that beyond ASAT there are still more far-reaching, though perhaps at first glance less obvious, plans. The ASAT project is part of the global "star wars" military-political doctrine. It should be stressed that the technical components of anti-satellite and the anti-missile space strike systems envisaged in the SDI programme are very similar. Once the most important ASAT components have been developed and tested, "kinetic" anti-missile weapons too can be deployed without any additional testing. This is why the military and, of course, the White House evinced such keen interest in the in-flight testing of ASAT. So far, the U.S. does not venture to embark on actual testing of SDI weaponry, inasmuch as it is still bound by commitments under the ABM Treaty of 1972. Because of this it was decided simultaneously to acquire an anti-satellite weapon and to develop anti-missile weapons in the guise of ASAT tests. Who, then, is seeking superiority?

The target test of a space strike weapon conducted on Friday, September 13, was another U.S. "first step" in the arms race. I am not superstitious, but I do hope that this day will not become a "black Friday" for all humanity.

LEBEDEV EXAMINES POSSIBLE EFFECTIVENESS OF SDI

LD160119 Moscow World Service in English 2000 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Sergey Lebedev commentary]

[Text] What's behind the alleged defensive nature of the U.S. "star wars" project -- a misconception or a deliberate calculation? That's the point taken up by Sergey Lebedev in the following commentary:

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at the annual reception given by the city's lord mayor has claimed that the "star wars" program was not an obstacle in the way of a favorable outcome of the approaching Soviet-American summit in Geneva.

The prime minister repeated the well-known allegations of the American Administration that the program was purely defensive. One can say with confidence that when it is leaders of states that talk of a defensive nature of strike space weapons, it's hard to believe that they are misinformed. It's common knowledge that the weapons system offered within the framework of the "star wars" program is capable of destroying space satellites. This would make it possible to blind the enemy at an early state and deprive him of an opportunity to learn what action the other side has taken.

However, progress in that field will make it possible to use space weapons against targets on the ground, too. The American newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES has said that to function normally the system must have weapons capable of destroying ballistic missiles shortly after launching, while they are still in the atmosphere. The author of the articles notes that it would be easy to increase the range of such weapons to hit targets on the ground. At least two of the weapons system in question must be capable of reaching targets on earth from space.

How effective will the new space weapons be when used against the earth? John (Raysa), a laser expert and advocate of that type of weapons, has noted that the new system deployed in space is capable of throwing back an industrialized nation to the level of the 18th century. This refutes the claim that the new types of weapons being developed in the United States are designed to destroy the military and strategic facilities of the enemy. A space weapons system can be used for instant strikes from space against relatively unprotected targets: aircraft (?hangars), electric power stations, fields sown to grain, which will cause fires and hit civilians in the first place -- thus, the picture of what the 20th century's biggest disaster might look like. That's the threat posed by a weapon which can be called defensive only for propaganda purposes.

President Reagan himself in his speech of 23 March 1983, when he announced his program, acknowledged that what he described as a defensive system could give rise to fears of a possible attack. He remarked that in combination with offensive weapons it could be seen as a factor contributing to an aggressive policy. On the other hand, the advocates of the "star wars" have obviously overestimated the defensive potential of the American initiative. A leading British expert on space research has said SDI is a threat to common sense and the very life on the globe. Dr (Baker), who has worked for many projects for the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration, including the Apollo and Shuttle programs, told a conference in Glasgow that few physicists believe that the "star wars" program would reach its objective and protect the United States and Western Europe from nuclear weapons in the event of an attack. Dr (Baker) said it was more likely that the program would be a partial success, which would increase the risk of nuclear war.

So a system which can be used to attack and at the same time provides poor protection will nevertheless become a destabilizing factor. Mikhail Gorbachev, as he talked with a delegation of the Nobel Prize winners' congress, said that if the arms race branched out into space, any strategic stability would be out of the question. Just imagine, he went on to say, what the world will look like in 10 or 20 years. Everywhere from the boundaries of the atmosphere to the heights of hundreds of kilometers, from geostationary orbits, various types of strike weapons will be flying over the people populating our planet. That is the reason why the issue of the prevention of arms race in outer space is the key issue at the Soviet-American disarmament talks.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD171756 Moscow Service in Russian 1230 GMT 17 Nov 85

["International Observers Roundtable" program, presented by Vladimir Yakovlevich Tsvetov, political observer on All-Union Radio and central television; with Radomir Georgiyevich Bogdanov, deputy director of the United States and Canada Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and Nikolay Ivanovich Yefimov, IZVESTIYA's first deputy editor in chief]

[Text] [Tsvetov] Hello there, comrades. Soviet-U.S. summit talks will begin in Geneva in 2 days. The great expectations and great hopes which the peoples of the world are pinning on the Geneva meeting have already been reported on numerous occasions on the radio, on television, and in the newspapers, and these expectations and hopes are only natural. Let me remind listeners of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's remarks at the meeting with Nobel Prize winners. Here are his remarks: Without exaggeration our age can be described as a turning point. The question that is posed is indeed the following: Is humanity to be or not to be? And the reply depends significantly on how another question is resolved -- that of whether weapons are to be or not to be in space. The Soviet Union is prepared to reply unequivocally to this question; there must be no weapons in space. The Soviet Union is prepared to underpin this reply with any mutually acceptable accord. Of course, the Soviet Union would like to begin a dialogue on this subject now. To judge by numerous statements from representatives of the U.S. Administration, however, the United States does not want to give up the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, which in the press has been given the figurative title of the "star wars" program.

'Fairy Tales' About SDI

[Yefimov] This is indeed the most important question of all. Replying recently to questions from Soviet journalists and counting on our being either ill-informed or naive, the U.S. President seemed to be attempting to lull both his allies and us with fairy-tales about how noble and inoffensive his program for the creation [sozdaniye] of space strike weapons is. Just think, he is even prepared to give it to the Soviet Union if the United States has it, and if by that time neither side has nuclear weapons left. But why, when there are no nuclear weapons left? Why after that? Weinberger, his defense secretary, is much more frank. I quote: If the Russians are the first to develop [razrabotat] the program, then an extremely dangerous situation will arise in the world, he said. The U.S., British, and French nuclear deterrents would then count for nothing, and nothing would be able to prevent a successful Russian first strike. So that it turns out is what the program is for -- a first strike. One might ask what would happen if the U.S. develops it first then what is going to happen? Will an extremely tranquil situation immediately arise in the world? Throughout the postwar years the United States has sought security for itself alone, at the expense of the security of others.

[Rogdanov] There is another point I would like to make. Take the U.S. side -- and this perception is, if you like, based on our historical experience of relations with the United States -- well, what is a shield? It signifies invulnerability. A country suddenly acquires a feeling of invulnerability, and the next word I would use is impunity. Insofar as I understand the United States and its policies and the entire 40-year history of our strategic relations, the conclusion I reach is that it is very dangerous for a country such as the United States, with the sort of ruling class it has and with the sort of hegemonist tendencies, very deeply ingrained in its consciousness, to suddenly acquire a feeling of invulnerability and impunity. I fear that this would be a misfortune for the whole world.

I would again like to draw your attention to one circumstance. Our listeners will, no doubt, recall President Reagan's interview in which he was asked a very clear-cut and precisely formulated -- I would say correctly formulated -- question concerning the U.S. attitude to the Strategic Defense Initiative. It must be said that it was not a written reply by the President, but an improvisation by him in reply to this question. He said that the United States would deploy a nuclear strike or space defense [as heard] only when offensive weapons are eliminated. When experts examined this statement of the President's, I must say bluntly that it aroused a very interesting reaction. It turns out, the experts thought, that things aren't the way we initially thought. There really is some element of defense in it if you first eliminate offensive weapons. After this, cold water was suddenly poured over the idea. No, they said in Washington; no, they said in the White House; you have misinterpreted the President. Offensive weapons will remain, they will remain without fail, and there will be a lengthy transitional period when both defensive and offensive weapons will exist.

Well, I would say that firmer confirmation of the danger of this system, this scheme, than this repudiation of the President's remarks to Soviet journalists cannot be imagined. You have an offensive weapon which is ready to decapitate your adversary and you have a shield which protects you against retribution. Well, tell me what this is if not a first disarming strike.

[Yefimov] It seems that Washington is displaying a lack of political sophistication as compared with Europe. In the nuclear age everything is interrelated and interdependent, you cannot survive alone. You can only survive, or perish, together.

'Star Wars' Concept

[Tsvetov] I would like to give some precise details about the concept of "star wars," particularly since our listeners frequently ask what that concept embraces. First, the concept embraces space strike weapons, as we have just discussed. This involves primarily the ASAT system. It has already undergone a number of tests and it is expected to be deployed in 1987. Second, the concept of "star wars" includes an antimissile defense system with space-based elements -- that very antimissile shield which you have just described. It seems to me that the space systems which provide U.S. offensive forces with possibilities which sharply increase the ability to carry out a first strike should also be included in the "star wars" concept. Take the Navstar satellite system, which will probably be put into operation soon. It will enable the United States to double the accuracy of its Trident-2 submarine ballistic missiles and its MX intercontinental ballistic missiles. All these three components of "star wars" have, as we have just said, the purpose of achieving military superiority over the USSR, of achieving the potential for effecting a first strike, first having destroyed the USSR's space objects, and then sheltering against a counterstrike behind the antimissile defense system.

[Bogdanov] I think you have set out the matter very precisely and quite amply, and you were quite right to draw attention to the fact that if one were to replace the totality of this system, these so-called "star wars," with some other synonym, then, as I would put it, it is a war involving a first disarming strike. This phrase, it seems to me, very accurately and fully reflects the sense of "star wars."

[Tsvetov] And this U.S. line toward the implementation of the plan to prepare for "star wars" is assuming quite visible outlines. Another nuclear blast is planned for December during the testing of laser weapons. The Lockheed Corporation has received a Pentagon contract for the development [sozdaniye] of land-based missiles designed for hitting targets in space.

All these activities run counter to the wishes not only of world public opinion but also of the U.S. people. I would like to cite the results of an opinion poll conducted by USA TODAY. Eighty-four percent of the U.S. people polled are in favor of the conclusion of an agreement designed to reduce armaments. Seventy percent of those polled are in favor of an agreement on banning the deployment of armaments in space. The question then, is why are U.S. leaders acting against the wishes of the U.S. people.

UN Resolution

[Yefimov] They are not just acting against the wishes of U.S. peoples. The day before yesterday a vote was held in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly on a resolution submitted by a large group of countries. The gist of the resolution was a call that at Geneva both sides should, at the earliest opportunity, reach effective accords on halting the nuclear arms race, averting an arms race in space, and on the use of space for peaceful purposes. The result of the vote showed 117 countries voted for the resolution, and the United States, all its NATO partners, as well as Japan and Israel, abstained.

[Tsvetov] Well, you will understand why the United States abstained when you take a look at this statement by a spokesman for the Lockheed Corporation, the Pentagon's principal contractor. This spokesman said that the "star wars" program is viewed by Lockheed as holding out promising prospects for the concern's financial prosperity. And it is a well-known fact that the U.S. Government acts on the basis of a fundamental principle which could be expressed in a paraphrase of a well-known saying: What is good for Lockheed is good for the United States. Not all listeners may know that the phrase "star wars" acquired currency thanks to a film by the U.S. movie director Lucas, which has the same title of "Star Wars." The term has acquired such an ominous significance that the director has felt like prosecuting people who use the term other than with reference to the film. I think that the phrase will die of its own accord if the concept which it refers to disappears.

As an alternative to "star wars," the Soviet Union proposes the "star peace" plan. This plan is also part of the political baggage which the Soviet delegation is carrying to Geneva.

'Star Peace' Proposal

[Yefimov] At the current session of the UN General Assembly, the Soviet Union submitted a package of very interesting proposals, and in particular the proposal for "star peace". We propose, I repeat, not "star wars," but "star peace". What does this concept involve? Our listeners frequently ask about this, and ask us to describe it in greater detail. First, "star peace" means the nonmilitarization of space. In other words, we are talking of the renunciation by all countries of the development [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike weapons. Such a renunciation would create the conditions for the peaceful study and development of space, for a pooling of efforts of all mankind in this sphere. This would of course give a powerful spur to the development of science and technology. We do not yet know all the possibilities of space, but without a doubt the resources of the heavenly bodies and the energy of the sun could, in the long term, be used for the benefit of all peoples, for solving global problems, for the creation of orbiting factories for the production of super-new materials under weightless conditions and in a vacuum.

Second, "star peace" would open up for all countries a host of other opportunities: carrying out broad, fundamental research of space and launching interplanetary space-ships and expeditions to this end; applying the result of space research in medicine, in materials technology, in the creation of new crystals, and so forth; creating new space technology, new orbital stations, and new spaceships.

Third, "star peace" means strict and complete adherence to previously concluded treaties and agreements, adherence to the principle of equality and respect for states' sovereignty, and the nonuse of force or threat of force.

Fourth, "star peace" also entails the creation of a world space organization, within whose framework all states could cooperate. That, briefly, is the "star peace" concept.

15 Nov Politburo Meeting

[Bogdanov] I would like to remind you that on Friday a news report on the sitting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo was published. The meeting discussed the results of Secretary of State Shultz' visit to Moscow and the results of his meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. This document we are talking about, in my view, contains a literally perfectly cast formulation of what we want and of what we are striving for in Geneva. It says that at the meeting of the top leaders of the two countries, attention should be devoted principally to the question of removing the nuclear threat on the basis of preventing an arms race in space and curtailing it on earth.

[Tsvetov] Among the initiatives made by the Soviet Union in preparation for the Geneva summit was a proposal to reach an agreement with the United States on completely prohibiting offensive space weapons for both countries, which we have just been discussing, and on genuinely, radically reducing by 50 percent nuclear weapons capable of striking the other's territory.

[Bogdanov] Yes, Vladimir Yakovlevich, that is a key point in the Soviet proposals. However, before we go on to discuss that subject, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that this 50-percent reduction or, as the specialists say, deep cut, is very much in tune with what the U.S. people have repeated for many, many years, maintaining that they advocated these deep cuts. But now, the time has come when we, in effect, have gone half-way toward the U.S. appeals, although, it must be said that the idea of deep cuts is by no means a U.S. invention. It is an old and consistent Soviet policy, to constantly reduce nuclear weapons. Let us recall that the SALT II Treaty stipulated a 25-percent reduction in strategic offensive weapons. We have gone half-way, not simply with regard to a 50 percent reduction of weapons capable of reaching the other country; we have gone further still, specifying that we are not merely reducing by 50-percent, but leaving no more than 60 percent of the total number of warheads remaining after the 50-percent reduction on any one component of the strategic triad. This means that these reductions will affect the most valuable component of the Soviet strategic forces -- land-based missiles.

Question of Missiles in Europe

But there is one question to which I would like to draw your attention. Our proposals use the formula of a 50-percent reduction of nuclear weapons capable of reaching the other side's territory. What is meant here? We mean nuclear weapons -- U.S. ones -- of medium-range and forward-based systems deployed in Europe, which, although strictly speaking, according to the accepted parameters, are not strategic, are nonetheless strategic for the Soviet Union. They are strategic because they threaten us to the same degree as U.S. strategic missiles deployed on U.S. territory. So we want to reduce these weapons. I think that not only do we have a moral right; it is a question of our security, a question of our survival. What arguments does the other side put forward against this proposal? They say that it is one-sided in the sense that it does not affect analogous Soviet weapons, above all the SS-20s, deployed on European and Asian territory, and that it means that only the United States will have to reduce while we do not have to reduce anything.

There is a large element of falsification here. We are willing to hold very serious talks on medium-range nuclear weapons; and, furthermore, we are willing to separate this issue from the issues of space weapons and other issues and single them out as a separate question, for we understand the full significance both for the peoples of Europe and for ourselves.

[Tsvetov] That constitutes precisely another Soviet initiative, put forward not long before the Geneva meeting. This initiative concerns medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. And you will remember that in order to facilitate reaching an agreement on this type of weapon, the USSR, as you have just said, proposed discussing the issue of medium-range missiles without directly linking them to the issues of space and strategic weapons.

[Bogdanov] In my opinion we have done everything to facilitate a solution to this issue, to make it resolvable.

[Tsvetov] In an attempt to break the deadlock over the question of a complete and universal ban on nuclear tests, the Soviet Union, as radio listeners know, launched a unilateral moratorium on all its nuclear explosions on 6 August of this year. This was also, in particular, in order to illuminate the political atmosphere on the eve of the Geneva meeting. The heads of state and governments of six Latin American, West European, and Asian countries recently appealed to the USSR and to the United States to announce a joint Soviet-U.S. moratorium on nuclear explosions for a period of 12 months. As we know, the Soviet Union responded positively to this appeal. Moreover, as Comrade Gorbachev stated in his answer to the appeal, the Soviet Union is ready as of now for an indefinite treaty banning all nuclear-weapons tests.

[Bogdanov] That proposal has enormous practical sense. Nuclear weapons need to be periodically tested, and periodically checked. If you do not test your stockpiled nuclear ammunition, then no military leader will ever be sure that the ammunition will work. In essence, nuclear ammunition which is periodically untested, in a specific sequence, loses its combat significance. Therefore, if you cease nuclear tests you in effect divest yourself of the opportunity of using nuclear weapons. This is the significance of the Soviet proposal and, incidentally, this is the reason why the U.S. side is so against the moratorium.

U.S. Threats of Nuclear Strike

[Tsvetov] All our proposals are aimed at maintaining military and strategic parity between the Soviet Union and the United States. This endeavor is not to be explained by some sort of arrogance or simply some kind of, so to speak, competition. There is very profound and great sense in it. Our radio listeners often ask what would happen if there were to be no military and strategic parity. In connection with this, I would like to mention the following interesting statistics. Over the past few decades Washington has openly threatened to use nuclear weapons against the Soviet Union 19 times. Of this total, the United States threatened us 16 times before 1963, when it enjoyed tangible strategic superiority. By 1963 the tilt in favor of the United States had become smaller, and in the period between 1963 and 1968 there were only two occasions when the sound of a nuclear threat could be heard from the United States. But after 1968 the United States only once dared to threaten us with a nuclear strike; and since 1971, when full strategic parity had been achieved, the United States has not once openly dared to threaten us with a nuclear strike.

In this connection I would like to recall what President Reagan said on 11 November. The President said: Weakness is temptation, it is an invitation to the quarrelsome [neuzhivchivyye] to impose their will on others.

That is why strategic parity with the United States is so vital to us, so that they are never tempted to try to impose their will on us.

[Bogdanov] The main problem is that strategic parity has been achieved in spite of the will of the United States, in spite of all they have done against the Soviet Union in 40 years since the war. The main, so to speak, annoying thing is the very state of this parity, precisely because of what you said. Parity deprives the U.S. of the opportunity to blackmail the Soviet Union. Why? Because as a result of parity, U.S. territory has become just as vulnerable and open to destruction as the territory of the Soviet Union. Suddenly they have found that their state is just as vulnerable as any other, and they have lost the opportunity of acting unpunished in the world arena. Hence the constant attempts to acquire military superiority over the Soviet Union.

U.S. Position at Geneva

[Tsvetov] This, evidently, explains the persistent attempts by representatives of the U.S. Administration to suggest to the press that one should not expect specific results from the Geneva meeting. In my view, this is an attempt to justify in advance the position of the U.S. side at the talks. And this position, as is clear from President Reagan's speech at the UN General Assembly's jubilee session and in his interview to Soviet journalists, evidently amounts to an attempt to lead the conversation in Geneva away from the main issue -- the question of arms control -- to secondary issues.

[Yefimov] We have proposed a large-scale peace program. What has the United States done? First, we heard confused voices in response saying that the problem of disarmament is not the most important one, that the most important thing is to discuss the situation in those countries where either the government or the political system does not suit Washington. The most definite thing in this context was said by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger. In his opinion, one should be discussing violations of human rights, observance of treaty obligations, regional problems, questions of bilateral relations, and arms reductions, in that order, with the most important one mentioned last. The nonmilitarization of outer space, as you noticed, is completely absent from his agenda.

Well, what is meant by discussing all these questions which members of the Washington administration place in the forefront, for example, human rights? Well, it is possible to discuss why in the United States, for example, they start bombing black poverty areas, as in Philadelphia, or to discuss the position of the unemployed, or the position of people living in reservations, or the absence of a social security system in the country. The Soviet Union does have something to say. The question is about something else. By bringing to the forefront those issues of the international situation which are not the most important, does Washington not want to emasculate the meeting and conceal its reluctance to hold serious talks on the most important issues? One cannot but agree with Senator Edward Kennedy who said the other day that the success and the effectiveness of the Geneva meeting must be judged by how the main question -- the question of nuclear disarmament and the question of space armaments -- will be solved or not solved.

Sometimes this question is thrown at us: Surely the very fact of a meeting between the leaders of two of the world's mighty powers is important? Of course it is. It is even more important if you recall the unfriendly rhetoric which we have heard in the course of a number of years from across the ocean. Of course, we do recall all that the U.S. President has said about the impossibility of talks with the Russians.

Five years ago he was seriously trying to convince people that one could not reach an agreement with the Soviet Union about anything because it had no morals, it did not believe in the Holy Scriptures and the future life. And here we have this same President preparing to go to Geneva to talk to the Russians! What can it be, an evolution of thought? Or something else? These are serious questions.

Obviously, the present U.S. Administration can no longer not go to such a meeting. It cannot ignore the mood of its NATO allies who are anxious about the exacerbation of international tension and also by the fact that Washington is thinking only about its own security, to the detriment of others. It cannot ignore either the mood of the broad masses both at home and abroad, especially in Western Europe, who cannot understand why hundreds of billions of dollars are being spent on the arms race, on the creation [sozdaniye] of more and more refined means of destroying people without having made even the slightest attempt to reach an agreement with the other side.

In recent weeks those who have followed the world situation closely could not fail to sense that the Soviet peace program which has been put forward to supplement all previous initiatives by the Soviet Union has received a huge response. Everything has shown that the White House's attempts to lead the forthcoming Geneva meeting away from the main issue are not in fact meeting with understanding from even the most loyal U.S. allies, even from Mrs Thatcher. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told President Reagan in a very confidential conversation: You must change your approach before the Soviet-U.S. summit, otherwise things may be unpleasant.

[Tsvetov] Nikolay Ivanovich, on the eve of the Geneva meeting your newspaper is probably receiving a large number of letters from Soviet people wishing our delegation success; letters in which our people are sharing their thoughts on the possible results of this meeting.

[Yefimov] Indeed, we are getting a great many; and the day before yesterday we published several letters in a leading article which was entitled: On the Eve of Geneva. Difficult though the Geneva talks may be the readers who are sending us letters realize that the talks will not be easy, they will be complex and people are hoping for an effective outcome. They believe in common sense, they believe that in the final analysis an accord can and needs to be achieved and that there simply is no other way. A Moscow writer, war veteran Yudovich, writes this: Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has a difficult task, but the whole of our country is behind Mikhail Sergeyevich. We wish him success. May he feel behind him the breath of all Soviet people and of all honest people on our planet! There are a great many letters like that.

Geneva Talks 'Complex, Difficult'

[Tsvetov] So the Geneva talks will be complex and difficult. The Soviet side knows this, but still it is going to the talks. So much is at stake. At stake is the security of mankind's existence. The Soviet Union is going to the meeting with the firm intention of conducting it in a businesslike, constructive spirit. The USSR is setting the task of discussing and, as far as possible, achieving a positive advance on problems which are the determinant ones, both for an improvement in Soviet-U.S. relations and for a normalization in the world situation as a whole. That is why the Soviet side has prepared for the Geneva talks so thoroughly.

At this point our conversation at the roundtable is concluded. All the best.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION -- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD152109 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 15 Nov 85

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by foreign political commentator Vyacheslav Lavrentyev; with political observer Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin; and Leonid Rassadin, Galya Bashirova, Dmitriy Biryukov, and Vladimir Pasko who are not further identified]

[Excerpt] Hello comrades. The majority of letters arriving at the editorial office to some extent or another concern the problem which is worrying not only Soviet people today, but also the whole of humanity. This is first and foremost the question of the preservation of universal peace, the curbing of the arms race and the normalization of Soviet-U.S. relations.

Grigoriy Aleksandrovich Golubev from Moscow writes: People are aware as never before of the seriousness and the dramatic nature of the present complex international situation. Either there will be a halt to the arms race and a start will be made on reducing the threat of war; or, on the contrary, those forces which are continuing to stir up tension, which are accelerating the arms race and pushing mankind towards nuclear catastrophe will gain the upper hand. Our listeners Boris Andreyevich Zhilkin from Sredniy Khat in Kursk Oblast; Stepan Ivanovich Zubchenko, a veteran of the Patriotic War from the village of Novodaretskaya in Donetsk Oblast, and others also express such concern.

At the same time, the letters express hopes that the forthcoming meeting in Geneva between the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States will be able to make a positive contribution to the cause of normalizing the international situation. The question which one meets most frequently is this: What are the participants taking to the summit meeting, and what can be expected from it? I shall invite the political observer Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin to answer this. Over to you, Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Arkadiyevich.

'Ensuring Favorable Results'

[Shishkin] On the part of the Soviet Union, the reply is clear and it is a reply which inspires justified hopes. By way of a practical contribution to ensuring a favorable result in Geneva, the Soviet Union has undertaken a number of unilateral steps. Our country has, for example, taken a pledge not to be the first to launch weapons into space. The Soviet Union has unilaterally announced a moratorium on the carrying out of nuclear explosions and on the deployment [razvertyvaniye] of medium-range nuclear armaments in the European zone. Moreover, the USSR has begun to reduce the numbers of its missiles. All this was crowned with a whole complex of constructive and realistic proposals, the implementation of which could lead to a turning point in the development of international relations. These proposals were set out in the speech by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at a meeting with French parliamentarians. The Soviet Union has proposed that the nuclear armaments of the USSR and the United States which are capable of reaching each other's territory be halved, if there is a ban on the creation of offensive space weapons. It is generally acknowledged that this is a realistic and practical formula for preventing an arms race in space and for a real and radical reduction in nuclear armaments on earth.

And finally, the Soviet Union has proposed that the solution of the question of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe be separated from the problems of space and strategic armaments.

This is a definite concession on the part of our country which was made for the sake of lowering the level of military confrontation in Europe. In the situation which has come about, the Soviet Union also proposes a direct dialogue on the respective armaments of Britain and France. We cannot fail to take them into account, for already they consist of 500 nuclear warheads and it is intended to double their number in a few years.

U.S. Reaction to Proposals

The unilateral actions of the Soviet Union and the whole complex of its far-reaching proposals are so specific and convincing that they require a precise and clear reply. Yes or no. And no evasions or pretexts will be of help here. But it is precisely in this that they are now engaging in the U.S. capital. The Washington administration is undertaking attempts to weaken the attractive force of the Soviet proposals, to dissipate them, and to inculcate the idea that they are of an imbalanced nature and provide no approach to accords. They are stating, for example, that the antimissile defense treaty permits the creation of space weapons, and that the proposals on a 50-percent reduction in strategic forces on both sides is only to the advantage of the Soviet Union. Along with this, Washington has begun to consider it a good thing, on the threshold of Geneva, to change its instigatory militarist statements in favor of peace-making rhetoric.

I had the occasion personally to become convinced of the true value of this maneuver in the course of the interview which the U.S. President gave in the White House to a group of Soviet journalists. We came to Reagan's Oval Office, where the interview took place, through the so-called Roosevelt Room, which was evidently intended to be a kind of purgatory for us.

Hanging on the walls of the Roosevelt Room are the portraits of the two Presidents Roosevelt, Theodore and Franklin. Franklin is of course better known to us through the combat alliance of wartime. But the room was dominated by Theodore, the former president at the beginning of the century. One of the first and most zealous theoreticians and practitioners of U.S. imperialism of what is now called a policy of force, Theodore Roosevelt was famous for his eloquent credo: Speak softly and carry a big stick. Judging by the quotations from his speeches, he is highly regarded by the present President. The spirit of Theodore Roosevelt is also an invisible part of the Oval Office which is next to the Roosevelt Room.

Deeds, Not Words Required

You make the bed soft, but it's hard to sleep on. This wise Russian saying came to my mind involuntarily when I heard the White House chief expatiating on the good intentions of the U.S. leadership on the threshold of the summit meeting in Geneva. We must learn to live in peace. It is impossible to win a nuclear war and it must not be allowed. This means that there must be no war between our countries. These good words, which not long ago were quite absent from the lexicon of the White House, could only be welcomed if they were corroborated by specific deeds and were not simply an unavoidable tribute to public opinion. For the true value of any general words is shown only in concrete actions and facts and in the real manifestations and directions of policies. These latter, unfortunately, do not allow one to conclude that the U.S. Administration is willing to go its half of the way toward the USSR and to make its contribution to the cause of preventing an arms race in space and of radically reducing it on earth.

'Militaristic' SDI

The Soviet journalists asked the President five written questions, thereby giving him a good opportunity to provide a considered and thoughtout answer to that which is worrying millions of people throughout the world. What does the United States, for its part, intend to do? But no, we got nothing concrete; and therefore, naturally, the first spoken question was: In your written answers you set forth old U.S. proposals. They have already been considered by the Soviet side and were judged to be imbalanced and giving unilateral advantages to the United States. You still have not mentioned what the U.S. answer to the new Soviet proposals is, yet the answer to this question is of primary interest to people before the Geneva summit. However, the President skirted this direct question, too. Instead, he chose to push his Strategic Defense Initiative. Again and again he manipulated words about this "star wars" program and the allegedly peaceful purpose of the Strategic Defense Initiative. Reagan assured us that the United States would only begin deploying [razvertyvaniye] its space shield after the elimination of offensive nuclear weapons.

However, not only we, but also the President's closest entourage, could not take this seriously, and it was with reason that the White House was obliged to practically disavow Reagan's words the very next day. Clearly, the space shield is needed by the Pentagon, above all, in order to use its cover to sharpen its nuclear sword for a first strike against the Soviet Union.

The militaristic nature of Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative is obvious, but the thinking behind it is still wider and deeper. It is a question of attempting to guarantee technological superiority of the West over the socialist countries, and incidentally, not just over the socialist countries, but over their own allies. The all-out striving by the United States to guarantee itself unilateral advantages was shown in the zeal with which Reagan pushed his zero option in connection with the talks on medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. But it is well-known that if such an option were to be implemented, the Soviet Union would really be left with zero, while the United States would have all its medium-range nuclear bombers, including the aircraft carrier force, plus Britain and France's nuclear weapons which are also targeted on Soviet territory.

Zero Option Proposals

The United States, for example, proposed reducing the number of ballistic missile warheads to 6,000 units on each side. On the surface it seems to be even, but there is no equality here at all. In actual fact, this proposal is a way of giving the United States military superiority. The U.S. approach leaves open the way to building up warheads on long-range cruise missiles. The U.S. side is attempting to remove sea-based cruise missiles from the framework of the talks and reductions. It avoids accepting the Soviet proposal to prohibit such missiles by general statements to the effect that the United States is willing to limit only somewhat air-based cruise missiles. As a whole, this stance taken by the United States envisages not a reduction but a buildup of nuclear warheads up to almost 18,000 units.

As we can see, while replacing harsh rhetoric with peacemaking rhetoric, Washington is not showing a genuinely serious desire to truly resolve important issues. Judging by what the U.S. President said during the interview, the White House is counting on gaining a propaganda benefit from the very holding of the Soviet-U.S. Geneva summit, without having any intention of correcting its stance on the essence of the main problems concerning the entire world. Instead, it clearly wants to try merely to settle certain issues in Soviet-U.S. relations, which, furthermore, are far from paramount.

World Awaits U.S. 'Constructive Response'

Thus, the road to the summit in Geneva is not an easy one. But still, the very awareness of the need for a broad Soviet-U.S. dialogue is a positive phenomenon. The time for words is passing; the time for actions is beginning. I would like to believe that the Soviet Union's willingness to achieve a sharp turn for the better in Soviet-U.S. relations will be met by a constructive response from the U.S. side. This is precisely what the world awaits.

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE URGES SECURITY COOPERATION

LD171419 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Brussels, November 16 TASS -- A two-day session of the international committee for European security and cooperation came to a close today in the Belgian capital. It was attended by representatives of public organizations from more than 20 countries, as well as activists of a number of international non-governmental organizations. Participants in the session approved the text of a telegram to the leaders of the two great powers which expressed hope on behalf of the European public that the Soviet-American summit meeting would promote the cause of peace, detente, universal security and cooperation.

The peace-minded public of the continent urges the United States to follow the example of the USSR and to institute a moratorium on nuclear explosions. A decision to this effect would create favourable conditions for holding constructive talks, the telegram says.

U.S. EMPHASIS ON REGIONAL CONFLICTS DECRIED

PM131151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Nov 85 First Edition p 4

[Article by political observer Yuriy Zhukov: "By What Right?"]

[Text] Statements are coming again and again out of Washington -- increasingly frequently issuing, moreover, from the very top echelon of the authorities -- about some U.S. right to decide at its own discretion which governments in other countries are "legal" and which are "illegal," and which it will allow to function and which it will not allow to function.

What is more, Washington is not ashamed to threaten that, if it fails to achieve this, then the United States might resort to direct military intervention, as in the case of Grenada in October 1983. A statement published in THE WASHINGTON TIMES by F. Ikle, under secretary of defense for policy, who is not accustomed to mincing words, in characteristic in this connection.

He complained that in Nicaragua the gangs maintained by the United States, which he calls "democratic forces," are suffering defeat while "the Sandinist People's Army is winning." Thus, he demanded increased military aid for the bandits and warned: "If aid is not given to the democratic (?) forces now, it is possible that a future administration will have to resort to the direct use of U.S. troops."

At the same time the Pentagon figure threatens possible U.S. armed interference with a view to "instilling order" (American order, of course!) also in the Philippines, demanding that "urgent" measures be taken "for the purpose of overcoming the trends which exist in the Philippines.

Quite a sensation was caused in the U.S. capital by the report carried in THE WASHINGTON POST 3 November that "President Reagan sanctioned a secret CIA operation aimed at undermining the Libyan regime headed by Colonel M. Al-Qadhdhafi." "Administration spokesman declared," this newspaper wrote, "that Reagan, Shultz, and Casey (CIA director) would undoubtedly like to see Al-Qadhdhafi overthrown."

The next day THE NEW YORK TIMES confirmed that, "according to representatives of Congress and administration staffers," President Reagan approved this secret plan. What is more, citing Congress and administration spokesmen, the newspaper added that the disclosure of this plan "will not necessarily lead to its failure." The chief thing, as THE NEW YORK TIMES writes, is that "the President and other officials openly state their hostility toward the Al-Qadhdhafi regime. According to reports, Secretary of State Shultz told his staffers last year that "We must cram Al-Qadhdhafi into a box and slam the lid shut." So there!

As the same newspaper explained, "several attempts to overthrow Col Al-Qadhdhafi were made" in the past, but they all failed. Why? For the simple reason that, as CBS-TV reported 4 November, "his overthrow is a difficult matter, as there is no internal opposition in Libya." And the program presenter added: "This leak of secret information has clearly angered the U.S. President. He has ordered that the guilty person be found and punished."

On 6 November the U.S. President granted an interview to a group of correspondents of the UPI, AP, REUTER, and AFP news agencies, and this direct question was put to him: "Are you not trying to overthrow Al-Qadhdhafi?" And there ensued a very significant dialogue:

Answer: ...about Al-Qadhdhafi. Let's just say that relations between us are not too close.

Question: What? Do you not intend to overthrow him by indirect (!) means?

Answer: No, we...speaking of...

Question: Can you not say anything about whether you are trying to overthrow him?

Answer: No. I don't like to talk about what we might do...might do, in the interests of maintaining secrecy (!)...

Thus, the President avoided a direct reply to a direct question, but it is not clear that he avoided confirming the plans to overthrow the Libyan Government because of the "interests of maintaining secrecy," although the secret has already been disclosed. Then the correspondents put the following question: "Do you not think that the United States should give some sort of aid to the rebels in Angola (this is what the United States calls Savimbi's gangs which are opposed to the government elected by the people and which are armed by the Republic of South Africa and supported by the CIA -- Yu. Zh.), as is being done in Nicaragua or Afghanistan?"

And once again the President avoided a direct answer but made it clear that they are working toward just this: "I think," he said, "that there are spheres where we could help them."

The American press understands perfectly well this language of hints, all the more so as a proposal to allocate \$27 million to help Savimbi's gangs has already been submitted to Congress. The newspapers there are now debating not whether this aid will be given but how this will be done and what it will lead to, taking into account that the Angolan Government is standing firmly on its feet and Savimbi's gangs will not succeed in overthrowing it.

It is possible to understand in a human way D. Newsom, director of the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy at Georgetown University, who wrote the next day, 7 November, in the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR: "I remember how the U.S. Administration, motivated by clever propaganda and by considerations of oversimplified ideology, was dragged into other unsuccessful and unpopular operations in Africa -- in Katanga and Biafra. It is a real tragedy that the United States is once again getting involved in a conflict in Africa without having clear goals and without realizing what these actions will cost it and what they will lead to."

Thus, life itself is once again throwing up legitimate questions to which the U.S. Administration does not wish to give a direct answer but which, sooner or later, it will have to answer:

On what grounds does Washington confer upon itself the right to decide who should lead Libya, who should be in power in Nicaragua, and who should "instill order" to U.S. liking in the Philippines?

Who has the right to decide what system should exist in Angola -- the Angolan people who attain their freedom in fighting against the colonizers, or the mercenaries of the South African racists and their American patrons?

Who should decide how the peoples of Afghanistan and Ethiopia, who have thrown off their oppressors, are to live -- the peoples of these countries themselves or the mercenaries of the United States and its friends?

The United States alone has forked out \$1.5 billion to train and arm the dushmans who are sowing death in Afghan settlements, but it has not succeeded and will not succeed in breaking the Afghan people's will for freedom.

PRC FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION VISITS UZBEK SSR

GF141748 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 0215 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] A delegation of representatives from the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries and from the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous region branch of the Chinese-Soviet Friendship Society has visited the Uzbek SSR. The visiting guests acquainted themselves with the work of [word indistinct] establishments and cultural organizations in Tashkent. They visited factories and the Vladimir Lenin State University in the capital and traveled to the Akhun-Babayeva Kolkhoz in Tashkent Rayon.

The members of the delegation held talks in the Uzbek Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Uzbek branch of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society.

Further Report

OW171156 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] A delegation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries has visited the Soviet Union's Central Asia. The delegation visited Uzbekistan's industrial enterprises and collective farms. Interviewed by reporters, (Fang Shiji), president of Xinjiang University, said: The members of the delegation admired the magnificent achievements made by the Uzbek Republic during the Soviet years. He said: Our visit to Uzbekistan has been an educational one. The Soviet Union has accumulated rich experience in economic and social construction.

PENG ZHEN, LI PENG VISIT SOVIET EXHIBIT IN BEIJING

LD151434 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] The Asian and Pacific international fair began in Beijing today. A total of 26 countries are taking part, including the Soviet Union, Vietnam, and Mongolia. The opening ceremony of the fair, which was organized by the China Committee for the Promotion of International trade, was attended by Peng Zhen, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, and Li Peng, vice premier of the State Council.

Peng Zhen and Li Peng visited the Soviet pavilion and toured exhibits on the achievements of the Soviet people in the fields of economics, science, and technology including new processes in ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, robot machine tools and equipment, and models of aviation technology. Peng Zhen wished the Soviet exhibitors much success.

But Washington continues to claim that the dushmans are "fighters for democracy," and the United States will continue to help them!

On what grounds is this being done? Here is what U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger said about this:

"Our country assumes the role of world leader which is inherent in it by right (?!)," he declared on addressing the Senate Armed Services Committee last spring.

It assumes it, and that's all! And still earlier he had expressed himself even more clearly: "In accepting the world as it is, we must be ready to fight without delay in many parts of the globe, and to fight to a victorious finish."

And all this is backed up by a huge military budget on the pretext that "America's strategic interests demand that we support our ideals abroad," as U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz declared on addressing the National Committee on American Foreign Policy in New York.

Fine ideals -- I must say! In my view, L'HUMANITE, the French Communists' newspaper, described very correctly and exactly the U.S. actions aimed at realizing such "ideals": "International legal enactments have been trampled. Reagan wants to apply the law of the jungle in international relations."

But it is not only Communists who think this. I will remind you that, when the report was published that the American special services had mined Nicaragua's territorial waters and that several peaceful merchant ships had been blown up by those mines, even T. O'Neil, speaker of the U.S. Congress House of Representatives, angrily declared that that piratical act was "the worst manifestation of international terrorism."

Last year the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution "On the Inadmissibility of a Policy of State Terrorism and Of Any Actions by States Aimed at Undermining the Socio-political System in Other Sovereign States."

Some 117 states voted for that draft. And the United States? The United States abstained! And it is clear why: You see, that resolution prohibited and condemned precisely those subversive actions which it has elevated to the rank of its state policy. And all this in the name of the "ideals of democracy" and "Christian morality ..."

The Washington masters of "psychological warfare" clearly miscalculated when, trying to divert world public attention from the burning and urgent problems of the struggle against the arms race, they conceived a desire to advance the problem of "regional conflicts" to the fore and forgot that this problem will boomerang against Washington. For people have forgotten neither the U.S. aggression in Vietnam, nor the battleship "New Jersey's" salvos against Beirut, nor the atrocities being perpetrated by gangs hired for dollars on the soil of Nicaragua, Angola, and other countries too.

ZHAO ZIYANG WELCOMES U.S.-USSR TALKS

OW141405 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1213 GMT 14 Nov 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] The more than 2-week tour of Latin American countries by Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State Council, during which he visited Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, and Venezuela, has ended.

Addressing the Council of Foreign Relations of the Argentine Congress, he noted the importance of a peaceful international atmosphere for the internal development of the PRC. Zhao Ziyang asserted that an independent and autonomous line lies at the heart of China's foreign policy. The Chinese premier also said that the PRC is for disarmament and against the arms race, including the one in space.

He recalled that China had taken practical steps by reducing its Army by 1 million people this year. He reaffirmed that China had pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons under any circumstances. According to the words of the Chinese leader, the PRC welcomes the resumption of Soviet-U.S. talks.

BEIJING REVIEW NOTES TRADE DEFICIT WITH WEST

PM131712 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Nov 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Before Tariff Barriers; Chinese Magazine on PRC Foreign Trade"]

[Text] Beijing, 11 Nov -- The weekly BEIJING REVIEW, which is published here, expresses grave concern in connection with the increasing deficit in China's trade with Western countries and, above all, with the United States and Japan. As China's trade, economic, scientific, and technical ties with capitalist countries expand, the weekly points out, the PRC trade deficit constantly continues to grow. The greatest deficit has been recorded in Chinese trade with Japan. In 1983 it stood at \$1.6 billion, last year at \$2 billion, and during the first 7 months of this year at \$2.7 billion. Since trade and economic ties with the United States began in 1972, the BEIJING REVIEW writes, the sum total of China's trade deficit has amounted to \$14.6 billion.

This phenomenon, the article states, has come about because Western countries do not observe the terms of the agreements signed with China to grant most-favored nation status to Chinese goods. Certain capitalist countries have erected strong tariff barriers in the way of Chinese goods. The United States, for example, is reducing imports of Chinese textiles and sewn goods on various pretexts. Japan is acting similarly, reducing imports of Chinese silks and other goods.

CPSU DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR JAPAN CP CONGRESS

LD172212 Moscow TASS in English 1832 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] Moscow, November 17 TASS -- A Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) delegation consisting of Anatoliy Yegorov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, director of the Institute of Marxism-Leninism under the CPSU Central Committee (the leader of the delegation), and Ivan Kovalenko, deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, left Moscow today. The delegation is to participate in the 17th Congress of the Japanese Communist Party.

TU DELEGATION COMPLETES VISIT TO JAPAN

LD151924 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] A delegation of Soviet trade unions headed by AUCCTU secretary Provotorov, today completed its visit to Japan. Representatives of the millions of Soviet working people have taken part in the Soviet-Japanese trade union meeting "For Peace and Friendship Between the Peoples of the USSR and Japan." The conference confirmed the efforts of the workers' unions of both countries to continue developing cooperation and various ties for the sake of strengthening peace and the broadening of mutual understanding between peoples.

VICE FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES IN TOKYO

OW140610 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 13 Nov 85

[Text] A Soviet economic delegation headed by Vice Foreign Trade Minister Vladimir Sushkov arrived in Tokyo today. The purpose of the visit is to hold talks with Japanese business organizations and citizens on the outlook for the development of economic cooperation between Japan and the Soviet Union. The key issue is the question of Japanese participation in the large Soviet project for oil and natural gas development in the Sakhalin and on the Continental Shelf.

FISHERIES MINISTER MEETS COUNTERPART IN TOKYO

LD142016 Moscow TASS in English 1930 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Tokyo, November 14 TASS -- USSR Minister of Fisheries Vladimir Kamentsev on a visit here at the invitation of Japan's Foreign Ministry, met today with Moriyoshi Sato, Japan's minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.

The Japanese minister expressed the hope that the meeting will promote the further development of mutually advantageous cooperation in fisheries with taking into account the striving of both countries for stable and long-term ties. The Soviet side emphasized the importance of joint efforts to preserve the resources of the Pacific on the basis of the use of the Soviet Union's and Japan's scientific and technical achievements in this direction.

The Soviet minister also had a conversation with Japan's Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe. Questions of business cooperation of both countries in the sphere of fisheries were discussed. The sides expressed the hope for the further improvement of relations between the two countries.

ARISTOV RECEIVES DPRK TRADE MINISTER 13 NOV

PM161331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Nov 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Developing Ties"]

[Text] On 13 November a conversation took place between B.I. Aristov, USSR foreign trade minister, and Choe Chong-kun, DPRK foreign trade minister. Questions of further developing trade and economic ties between the two countries were discussed.

ANTI-U.S. DEMONSTRATIONS HELD IN SOUTH KOREA

SK160202 Moscow International Service in Korean 0930 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] There was a demonstration yesterday in Pusan, South Korea's second largest city. Participants in this demonstration shouted anti-U.S. and antigovernment slogans. The police dispersed the participants in the demonstration and arrested some of them.

A while ago, the South Korean patriots occupied the branch office, in Seoul, of the American Chamber of Commerce in order to protest against the suppression of South Korea by the U.S. monopolists and militarists [kunbol] and also a few months ago, many students occupied the U.S. Information Service building in Seoul, demanding that the United States put an end to its support for Chon Tu-hwan's dictatorship.

In the meantime, the Chon Tu-hwan clique is strengthening the suppression of opposition forces. Concentration camps are being built in many areas of South Korea which will be used to confine participants in antigovernment demonstrations who are demanding the establishment of a democratic system and the withdrawal of U.S. forces.

STUDENTS SEIZE RULING PARTY BUILDING IN SEOUL

LD180658 Moscow TASS in English 0649 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Tokyo, November 18 TASS -- A large group of South Korean students seized today in the morning the building of a training centre belonging to the ruling party in Seoul. They barricaded themselves on top of the roof and hung a placard with slogans demanding the resignation of dictator Chon Tu-hwan, the implementation of large-scale democratic reforms and the termination of repressions against the democratic forces. Over 1,000 policemen armed to the teeth surrounded the building. Outside it hundreds of students staged a massive demonstration expressing their solidarity with the demands of their brave comrades who were inside the building.

DRA FRONT CHAIRMAN COMPLETES USSR VISIT

PM140946 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Nov 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Ties Expanding"]

[Text] A. Khatif, chairman of the DRA National Fatherland Front, was in Moscow 4 through 11 November at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries.

During meetings and talks at Soviet social organizations he spoke about the DRA National Fatherland Front's activity in mobilizing various social strata, ethnic groups, tribes, and the country's religious circles to support the people's power in Afghanistan and to step up their participation in implementing major economic and social transformations. The guest made a high assessment of the Soviet Union's selfless aid to the Afghan people in building a new life and of the peaceful foreign policy initiatives of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

Representatives of the Soviet public reaffirmed their unswerving solidarity with the friendly Afghan people and resolutely condemned imperialist interference in the DRA's affairs.

A. Khatif took part in the festivities devoted to the 68th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

BABRAK KARMAL ADDRESSES REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL

PM131405 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Nov 85 First Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent V. Baykov: "The Tasks of the Day"]

[Text] Kabul, 9 Nov -- The enlarged session of the DRA Revolutionary Council, held in the republic's capital, was a big event in the life of the DRA. The party and state aktiv and members of the public and clergy were addressed by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA revolutionary Council.

The report notes, in particular, that in the seven years since the revolution the country has achieved marked successes in the implementation of democratic and socioeconomic transformations.

The holding of the Grand National Assembly and the successful start of elections to local organs of power and management demonstrated the working people's ardent support for and approval of the domestic and foreign policy of the party and state.

On behalf of the party and government Babrak Karmal declared the readiness of people's power for broad, national cooperation in the interests of the whole people and for a broader dialogue with those groups who are still unconsciously occupying positions which are hostile toward the revolution and for reaching compromises for the sake of national concord and the establishment of general peace and security in the country. In particular, the plan is to set up a Council of Ministers of authoritative representatives expressing the interests of the different strata and groups of the population as part of the structure of leading state organs, specifically as part of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

The DRA Revolutionary Council session again demonstrated that revolutionary power in Afghanistan is genuine people's power and that it is striving to further democratize the country's public life.

TALYZIN RECEIVES SRV'S TRAN QUYNH 15 NOV

OW170749 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Comrade Talyzin, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers, and chairman of the Soviet State Planning Committee, received Comrade Tran Quynh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, in Moscow on 15 November.

IMELDA MARCOS RECEIVES LITHUANIA'S SHEPETIS

PM151608 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Nov 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting with Delegation"]

[Text] Manila, 12 Nov -- Philippine-Soviet relations are stable in character, Imelda Marcos, minister of human settlements and governor of Greater Manila, stated today when receiving a Soviet delegation headed by L.K. Shepetis, chairman of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and a USSR Supreme Soviet deputy. During the meeting Imelda Marcos expressed satisfaction at the results of her recent visit to the Soviet Union and noted the significance of the USSR Festival held annually in the Philippines.

The delegation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and of the Lithuanian Friendship Society, which has been taking part in the USSR Festival in the Philippines, left for home today.

NEW ZEALAND LAW TO BAN NUCLEAR SHIPS' CALLS

LD180941 Moscow TASS in English 0658 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Canberra, November 18 TASS -- The working out of the draft law banning the calls at the ports of New Zealand of nuclear-capable warships has been completed in that country, Prime Minister David Lange has reported. Speaking at a press conference in Wellington, the head of the New Zealand Government said that the draft law would be introduced in parliament in December, before the beginning of the regular parliament recess.

The working out of the new legislation was fiercely opposed in Washington. Official representatives of the U.S. Administration openly threatened that if the legislation was adopted New Zealand would lose the status of a U.S. ally. However, despite the pressure from across the ocean, David Lange reiterated the allegiance of the New Zealand Government to the anti-nuclear policy which is supported by the overwhelming majority of the population of that country.

ZAGLADIN ADDRESSES FRG PEACE RALLY 16 NOV

LD162000 Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Hamburg, November 16 TASS -- A mass demonstration of FRG public has been held here today under the slogan "No Weapons in Outer Space -- Disarmament on Earth". Tens of thousands of people united by the common wish to bar the way to nuclear death got together in the central square of the city "Rathausmarkt" to declare a resolute protest against the preparations for "star wars" started by the USA and the build-up of military preparations by the Pentagon and NATO. The demonstration has been called on the initiative of the Hamburg "peace forum", the leading alliance of peace champions in the north of the FRG associating in its ranks representatives of various segments of the population, political parties, trade unions, public and religious organizations.

The meeting was addressed by Professor Peter Starlinger, one of the leaders of the organization of natural scientists "Responsibility for the Cause of Peace", which is broadly known in the FRG. Scientists of our country share the concern of millions of people in Europe and the United States about the escalation of military threat caused by the deployment of American first-strike missiles in a number of West European countries and Washington's plans to create space-strike weapons. Professor Starlinger welcomed the Soviet Union's preparedness for reaching concrete agreements in the field of disarmament and declared that the peace champions in the FRG are determined to prevent the implementation of the Pentagon's sinister designs.

Addressing the meeting, Vadim Zayladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, stressed that at present no task is more important than that of preserving peace. The USSR and the other countries of the socialist community have addressed the governments and peoples of the world with new, far-reaching proposals directed at ridding mankind from the threat of war, at going over to the policy of detente and peaceful cooperation. One of the important aims set to itself by the Soviet Union is to prevent the militarization of outer space and open the way to resolving the main task of ensuring general and complete disarmament, Vadim Zagladin said.

The implementation of the so-called American "Strategic Defence Initiative" will lead to a new gigantic spiral of the arms race. It torpedoes talks in the field of disarmament, the meeting was told by Werner Karotka, deputy of the Hamburg City Assembly. He demanded that the FRG Government dissociate itself from Reagan's "star wars" programme and thus make a constructive contribution to the cause of European security.

Addressing the meeting, Francois Clapier, a prominent French scientist and public figure, called for pooling the efforts of the European peace champions, who aim at keeping mankind from slipping down to the brink of a nuclear catastrophe.

ZAGLADIN DISCUSSES SECURITY ISSUES

DW181000 Hamburg HAMBURGER MORGENPOST in German 16 Nov 85 p 14

[Interview with CPSU Central Committee member Vadim Zagladin by correspondent Rudolf Schroeck in Bremen on 15 November]

[Text] MORGENPOST: Professor Zagladin, you are visiting the FRG shortly before the Geneva summit. Do you do that for any special reason?

Vadim Zagladin: I am visiting Bremen in response to an invitation by the DKP to give several lectures here. Later I will be in Bonn to conduct disarmament talks with the SPD chairman. Then I will proceed to Geneva.

MORGENPOST: What do you and what does the Soviet Union expect from the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting?

Zagladin: We will be wiser on 21 November when everything is over. But I do hope that the U.S. Government will let itself be persuaded to desist from militarizing space. The United States and the USSR are the world's most powerful countries. Nevertheless, they must not claim any special rights vis-a-vis other nations. Yet they have a special responsibility. And that means: common sense instead of an arms buildup.

MORGENPOST: What will the consequences of Geneva be for the Federal Republic?

Zagladin: The criterion for judging the success of Geneva will be discontinuation of the arms race. That would not only make peace more secure, it would also animate European East-West relations. I very much welcome the fact that Chancellor Kohl has wished the Geneva negotiations full success. But I criticize Bonn's efforts to participate in a potential U.S. SDI program.

MORGENPOST: What would the consequences of that be?

Zagladin: Relations between Bonn and Moscow would worsen. I do not wish to talk about measures here and now. But let me say this once again about a German SDI participation: I understand sectors of German industry anticipate an advance in technology from it. But, I ask, does technological success not serve the United States in the first instance and to a far lesser extent the FRG? Take a look at Japan. There, people managed to climb to the world's top technological standard without an arms buildup and military research. Why should that not be possible in the FRG as well?

MORGENPOST: How would the Soviet Union react to German nonparticipation in SDI?

Zagladin: We offer to all countries, but especially to the FRG, close cooperation in peaceful scientific exploration of space. We would especially try, jointly with the FRG, to implement the energy project of the future: power generation through nuclear fusion and production of that kind of power station. Technological cooperation between the FRG and the USSR could be enhanced immensely.

MORGENPOST: Do you see any options for cooperation, especially between northern Germany and the Soviet Union?

Zagladin: City partnerships exist between Riga and Bremen, between Leningrad and Hamburg. They should be expanded. We have our cruise ships serviced in Bremerhaven, and we should expand that as well. I see a bright future for the economies of Bremen and Hamburg, especially in cooperation with medium-sized companies.

MORGENPOST: You speak German well. How come?

Zagladin: I learned it in school, but forgot a lot afterwards. But through practice and through my travels I acquired a bit again. After all, my motto is: If one visits the GDR or the FRG, it is better to speak poor German than good Russian.

DYMSHITS-LED DELEGATION VISITS FRANCE 12-17 NOV

LD172318 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1450 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] Paris, 17 Nov (TASS) -- By invitation of J. Auroux, French minister of urban planning, housing and transport, V.Ye. Dymshits, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, was in France from 12 to 17 November. He was accompanied by S.F. Voyenushkin, USSR minister of the construction materials industry; Ye.A. Varnachev, minister of construction, road and municipal machinebuilding, and other Soviet specialists.

They had meetings with J. Auroux, minister of urban planning, housing and transport; E. Cresson, minister of industrial redeployment and foreign trade; and J.M. Baylet, secretary of state in the Ministry of External Relations. Topical questions of the further development of Soviet-French cooperation in the sphere of construction were discussed.

The Soviet guests also visited the international Batimat fair under way in Paris, at which the latest achievements in the sphere of construction are exhibited, and were briefed on the experience of industrial companies manufacturing building structures and materials and means of mechanization. During their trip through France they visited a number of house-building production enterprises and looked around construction sites of new housing estates.

TURKISH GENERAL VISITS AIR FORCE UNIT

PM141500 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Nov 85 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Visit to Air Force Unit"]

[Text] Army General N. Urug, chief of the Turkish Armed Forces General Staff, who is on an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, visited an Air Force unit at Kubinka 13 November. The Turkish guest familiarized himself with Soviet pilots' combat equipment and life. Army General N. Urug was met and shown around by Colonel General of Aviation V.Ye. Pankin, chief of the Air Force General Staff.

The Turkish guest was accompanied by Colonel General M.A. Gareyev, deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff.

AGRICULTURAL ACCORD SIGNED WITH SPAIN

LD171619 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] In Moscow Spain and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement for the exchange of agricultural experts which will come into effect at the beginning of next year, according to a report from our correspondent in Moscow, Carlos Agrasar. The specialists will study Soviet techniques in a new irrigation system and improvements in the drainage of saline soil. The agreement was signed by the Spanish under secretary for agriculture, Francisco Pena, and the Soviet Deputy Minister of Land Improvement [presumably of Land Reclamation and Water Resources].

CONSULTATIONS ON NEAR EAST HELD WITH FRANCE

LD151212 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0345 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] Moscow, 14 Nov [as received] (TASS) — On Wednesday, 13 November, Soviet-French consultations were held at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs on certain questions of the situation in the Near East of mutual interest. Taking part in them on the Soviet side was Vladimir Polyakov, member of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the French side Marc Bonnefous, director of the North Africa and Near East Department of the French Ministry of External Relations.

U.S. DECISION TO BUY FRENCH EQUIPMENT EXAMINED

LD180549 Moscow in French to France and Belgium 2030 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Boris Tomanov commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, good evening, the miracle has happened. The slogan "Buy French" has this time found its way to the heart of the Pentagon. Well, when I say heart it is just a figure of speech, obviously, and the engagement has taken place. I have borrowed this poetic formula from the newspaper LIBERATION which, only a few days ago, went into ecstasies at the announcement of the American military department to buy RITA, the Integrated Network for Automatic Transmissions [Reseau Integre de Transmissions Automatiques], destined for providing communications on the battlefield, and conceived and manufactured in France by the Thomson company.

The patriotic joy of the French press on the occasion of this event has been expressed by the use of superlatives, hailing the French technical genius, the quality of the merchandise, and the generosity of the Pentagon. Furthermore, this commercial success has been enhanced by the fact that France had scored it in a fierce and dramatic struggle against its historical rival, England. In this glee many people have not been able to resist the temptation to taunt the unlucky rivals.

But less us pass, war is war, and in war one needs a better transmission equipment. The RITA is not trash! However, there is something that prevents me from considering this American-French deal a simple commercial transaction obeying the classical criteria of trade: Better price and better quality. I would not at all wish to question the quality of French technology, and to me the Pentagon is undoubtedly convinced that it had completed an excellent deal by opting for RITA. Why then did it hesitate for so long, and why did it come to a decision only after a special trip to Washington and the firm intervention by the American ambassador to France Mr Joe Rodgers to the U.S. Secretary of Defense? Why this suspense when, in the view of all, the French system is really better and is less expensive than the English one? What are these hesitations?

I find only one plausible answer to this question: the wedding between the Pentagon and RITA -- to remain always in the language of LIBERATION -- is not a love match but a political one which, according to Washington, should further restore military cooperation and coordination between the United States and France which, without belonging to the NATO military organization, has of late been getting closer and closer to it. No, no, do not be so in a hurry to see this as a propaganda exaggeration on my part! I am just drawing a logical conclusion from a declaration made by another Rogers, Bernard: This time it is the Commander in Chief of the NATO forces in Europe who said, a few weeks ago, that the degree of coordination between the Armed Forces of France and those of NATO was presently such that if the political decision were made, France would have no further effort to make a return in all harmony to the military organization of the Atlantic alliance.

Given this context, I am not at all astonished to see that certain political figures in France consider the 8 billion francs that the Pentagon has paid for RITA as the wages of repentance. After the departure of the communists from the French Government, the Americans are seeing things differently, notes with relief Mr d'Aubert, UDF [Union of French Democracy] deputy. I would not contradict him, but at the place of Mr D'Aubert I would not be so proud. Everything taken into account, if one has a closer look at it, the acquisition by the Americans of a European transmission system has only one meaning: The Pentagon has never abandoned either its strategic doctrine or, above all, its well known hope: that of confining a future war to Europe.

NUCLEAR MISSILE WITHDRAWAL FROM GREECE ANALYZED

PM151515 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Nov 85 First Edition p 5

[Nikolay Miroshnik "Commentator's Column": "Start Made"]

[Text] Withdrawal of U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in Greece has started. According to press reports, the Honest John Missiles which had been deployed in the north have now been removed.

Formally, this is taking place within the framework of the planned NATO modernization of European nuclear arsenals and replacement of obsolete systems with modern ones. But in the case of Greece there will be no replacement. The country's leadership has already said on more than one occasion that it will not agree to any modernization of the nuclear weapons stationed there, and literally the other day Greek Prime Minister A. Papandreou confirmed again that the withdrawal that has started is final.

The promise to rid the ancient Hellenic land of the foreign nuclear burden was an important point in the program of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) when it was still preparing for the power struggle. And it would be no exaggeration to say that this pledge, which met the aspirations of the vast majority of Greeks, was one of the chief arguments that ensured PASOK's triumph at the 1981 election and its new victory last June. As is known, the socialists and the government they have formed are advocates of the idea of turning the Balkans into a nuclear-free zone. The removal of nuclear weapons from Greece is a logical necessity if one is seeking to implement the proposal on creating a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans.

Of course, it will not be easy to achieve all this. From the outset Washington, which for decades had been accustomed to regarding Greece as a nuclear vessel, has not only shown displeasure at the new Greek leadership's "seditious" plans to get rid of the nuclear weapons and U.S. military bases and Athens' "willful" approach to a whole range of topical international problems, but has sore its utmost to make this Mediterranean country toe the Atlantic line. Greece has been exhorted, intimidated, and sometimes even hollered at. The latest "exhorter" was U.S. Under Secretary of State M. Armacost who has just visited Athens.

But the antiwar movement has now encompassed the whole people in Greece. Peace demonstrations attended by hundreds of thousands of people are no rarity in this small country. This movement is the buttress of all Greece's positive ventures in the foreign policy sphere. It also provides the stimulus for the country's independent course. Even now the Greek democratic public is insisting that the process of eliminating nuclear arsenals that has begun should be completed fully and without delay.

FINNISH LEGISLATORS ADVOCATE NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE

LD172145 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] Helsinki, November 17 TASS -- Representatives of political parties of Finland, represented in parliament, have called upon the government of northern countries to invigorate efforts with a view of creating a nuclear-free zone in the north of the European Continent. The appeal supports the striving for relaxation of international tension, disarmament and notes the importance of preserving a stable situation in the north of Europe.

Nuclear weapons are a threat also to the north of Europe. And therefore, a nuclear-free status of that region is an importance factor for ensuring security and it should be consolidated by joint measures of northern countries, the appeal says. The nuclear-free zone in the north of Europe would be a step towards full deliverance of the continent from nuclear weapons.

Chairmen of the parliamentary parties of Finland understood the obligation to broaden the relations between political parties of Finland and also parties of other northern countries with a view of creating in the north of Europe a zone free from nuclear weapons.

NATO COUNCIL SESSION TO DISCUSS ARMS SALES

LD151210 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] Brussels, November 15 TASS -- A special session of the NATO Council opened at the Headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization today at the level of deputy defence ministers and secretaries of state for defence.

The meeting is devoted to questions of cooperation between member states of the alliance in the development and production of [word indistinct] types of "conventional" armaments.

The meeting's participants will discuss a report by the conference of directors of national armaments services containing recommendations on the future directions of transatlantic cooperation in this area.

Underlying the report is the demand by the Western European members of a division of the NATO arms market which for many years has been monopolized by the United States. Western Europe demands a "two-way traffic" in the transatlantic exchange of weapons.

The proposals by the NATO European allies were worked out in the Hague yesterday at a meeting of the European arms programme group.

From the American side, according to the bulletin NOUVELLE ATLANTIQUE, U.S. Under Secretary of Defence William Taft intends pressing the allies into establishing a NATO fund worth 200 million dollars to finance joint programmes of research into advanced arms systems.

According to the London FINANCIAL TIMES, the American proposal for establishing a joint fund alters nothing in the U.S. stand. It is just a ploy in the U.S. current attempts to involve Western Europe into NATO's arms programmes.

DFLP'S HAWATIMAH HOLDS MOSCOW PRESS CONFERENCE

LD161544 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 16 Nov 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast; report by S. Rybin]

[Text] A delegation of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine is staying in our country. It is made up of Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the front and members of the Front's Politburo Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh and 'Abd Al-Karim Hamad. At a press conference held at the Soviet Committee of Solidarity with Countries of Asia and Africa they told of the Palestinian people's struggle on the West Bank of the River Jordan and the Gaza strip which are occupied by the Israeli Army.

In attempting by means of terror and repressions to suppress the Arabs' growing resistance, it was stressed at the meeting, Tel Aviv's ruling circles have announced their decision to expel several patriotic figures from the occupied areas. In this way the interventionists intend to decapitate the nationwide resistance movement. The Democratic Front has called on all Palestinian organizations to frustrate these dangerous designs of the Zionists and has called on the international public to launch a broad campaign of solidarity.

Nayif Hawatimah said: [begin Hawatimah recording in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation] We understand well that the implementation of the just demands of our people, for self-determination and the creation of their own state, as well as the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the region, is impossible without solving the main question of the present time: the removal of the threat of nuclear war and the prevention of the arms race. Therefore the entire progressive Arab public attaches great importance to the forthcoming Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva. We are confident that the USSR will do the maximum possible for the successful holding of the meeting. However, this needs a similar striving and good will on the part of the United States. [end recording]

In conclusion Nayif Hawatimah gave a high appraisal of the Soviet Union's peaceloving policy and of the support which our country is giving to the Arabs' struggle for their legitimate national rights.

Further Remarks

LD170742 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Report on 15 November Moscow press conference with Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and Front Politburo member Yasir 'abd Rabbuh -- passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpt] One of the factions of the Palestinian resistance, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] led by its secretary general Nayif Hawatimah, is currently on a visit to the Soviet Union. The members of the delegation met on 15 November with Soviet journalists and answered their questions.

One of the first questions put forward by the journalists to the DFLP secretary general and his colleagues dealt with the general situation in the Middle East and the struggle of the Palestinian people nowadays. Nayif Hawatimah said in his reply to this question:

"The Palestinian people are continuing their struggle against the Israeli occupation and American imperialism. The peoples of the Middle East are continuing their struggle against imperialism albeit Reagan's statements in which he ignored the fact that the Middle East is a tense issue in the world. The Palestinian people and Arab peoples will not allow Reagan to make the Middle East an American plantation, or a plantation for the American-NATO aggressive military bases. The Palestinian occupied territories will not remain forever under the control of Israeli imperialism albeit Reagan's statements on rendering the Middle East area as vital sphere for American imperialism, albeit the Zionist enemy's determination to usurp the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to establish its independent state, and albeit the agreement of strategic and military cooperation between Israel, the occupier, and American imperialism."

The second question put forward by the Soviet journalists to the leaders of the DFLP dealt with the stances of the Palestinian masses vis-a-vis the Amman agreement and its repercussions on the PLO and the Palestinian resistance movement. The DFLP secretary general said in his reply to this question:

"The Palestinian people, owing to its [word indistinct] struggle, has rejected [words indistinct] under the Amman agreement and rejects the concessions of the PLO's right-wing vis-a-vis its (?national duty) and continues the struggle in order to abrogate the Amman agreement and to restore the unity of the PLO, as the Palestinian national unity is the true weapon and the (?shield) of the Palestinian in his struggle, and in order to establish alliances (between) the one and unified PLO and world forces of liberation and progress, particularly with the Soviet Union, the colossal friend of the Palestinian people and Arab peoples."

Yassir 'Abd Rabbuhs, DFLP deputy secretary general, commented, during the press conference, on the U.S. aims in the Middle East by saying:

"The American policy vis-a-vis the Middle East stems from well-known goals, which are aimed at subjugating this region and its people to the hegemony of imperialism and to allowing the theft of its resources and also the deployment of military bases in the region in order to threaten its peoples as well as the Soviet Union and socialist countries. In order to achieve these goals the solid alliance between Israel and the United States was established and developed to strategic agreement that will allow Israel to become the tool for permanent aggression in order (?to impose separate deals) and prevent the resolution of the Palestinian issue and the problem of the Middle East in accordance with the interests of the peoples of the region. American imperialism has fueled, in order to achieve its aims, all the local conflicts, like [word indistinct] wars and conflicts in the Middle East region."

REPORTAGE ON IRAQI OIL MINISTER'S VISIT

LD151001 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Text] Talks have begun in Moscow with Iraqi oil minister, Qasim Ahmad (?al-Uraybi).

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

It is projected to conduct joint prospecting for new deposits of oil in Iraq. Earlier the Soviet Union helped to establish three fields which produce one-fifth of Iraq's oil. The Soviet Union is also helping to build up oil production in India, Algeria, Syria and South Yemen.

Meets Dinkov

JN141920 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1810 GMT 14 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Moscow, 14 Nov (INA) -- Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi held a meeting with USSR Minister of Gas Industry Vasiliy Dinkov here this evening.

During the meeting they exchanged viewpoints on ways to promote bilateral relations in the fields of oil and oil industries.

Inspects Installations

JN120839 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Moscow, 18 Nov (INA) -- Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi returned here from the (Neveto Gansk) district in Siberia last night following a 2-day tour.

The Iraqi minister, who is currently visiting the USSR at the head of a technical delegation, inspected the gas and oil installations in that area.

KAREN BRUTENTS CONTINUES VISIT TO SYRIA

Meets Al-Asad

LD151936 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Nov 85

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksey Zlatorunskiy]

[Text] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has received Karen Brutents, a CPSU Central Committee official who is visiting Syria. President Hafiz al-Asad said during their meeting that the course of the development of comprehensive cooperation with the USSR has a strategic nature. He said that his recent meeting in Moscow with CPSU Central Committee Secretary General Mikhail Gorbachev reconfirmed the strength of the ties of friendship between Syria and the USSR. He added that his country would continue to strive for a just, comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problems, and would firmly confront the forces of imperialism and Zionism, which are working with reaction, in their efforts to impose capitulationist separate deals on the Arabs. President Hafiz al-Asad expressed his high appreciation of the Soviet Union's peaceful policy and its support for the Arabs' struggle for their national legitimate rights.

Tomorrow the Syrian people mark their national day, the 15th Anniversary of the Corrective Movement. In these 25 years Syria has rightly occupied one of the central positions in the Arab peoples' struggle against imperialism. The role played by Syria in defending Lebanon's right to sovereignty and ending internal clashes is well-known.

Soviet-Syrian relations have become active in a noticeable manner in these 15 years, whether by mutually beneficial economic cooperation or within the context of the joint struggle for peace, slowing the arms race, or halting the imperialist and Zionist interference in the region's affairs. This was facilitated to a great extent by the signing of the USSR-Syria Friendship and Cooperation Treaty, which opened new scope for the development of Soviet-Syrian links. The USSR highly appreciates the state of Soviet-Syria relations. During the Syrian people's celebration of their national day, friendship meetings will be held in the USSR as an indication of the respect for the friendly Syrian people and their persistent struggle against imperialism.

Departs Damascus

JN171152 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] Comrade Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and the accompanying delegation left Damascus this morning following a 4-day visit to Syria at the invitation of the [Ba'th Party] National Command during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad. The delegation also met with a number of party and government officials. They were seen off at Damascus International Airport by Comrade Muhammad Zaydan, member of the Party's Central Committee.

FURTHER ON ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH UAE

UAE Foreign Ministry Statement

GF151246 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] The United Arab Emirates [UAE] and the Soviet Union have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of Wednesday, 29 Safar 1406 Hegira, corresponding to 13 November 1985.

The Foreign Ministry today issued a joint communique with the Soviet Union to be broadcast in the UAE and Soviet capitals at 1630 today Abu Dhabi time [1230 GMT]. Following is the text of the statement:

As result of the exchanges of cables in December 1971 between the chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the president of the UAE, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, it was agreed by the governments of the two countries to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of Wednesday, 29 Safar 1406 Hegira, corresponding to 13 November 1985.

His Highness Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid, Foreign Ministry under secretary, has made a statement in which he said: In view of the development of the ties of friendship between the governments of the two countries, it was decided during the talks held in Abu Dhabi that the two countries would exchange diplomatic representation at the ambassadorial level. He said: The UAE views the countries of the world with respect and appreciation as long as these countries reciprocate such a view, and participate in its endeavors to establish world peace and achieve prosperity for the international community.

He added: His highness the president has defined the features of our foreign policy since our state won its independence. His highness affirmed that our foreign policy is based on firm principles, foremost being the national interest of our people, who are part of the Arab nation and a member of the international family. Among the most important of these principles are the strengthening of world peace and friendship and cooperation with all states and peoples based on mutual respect and consideration for the legitimate interests of all.

Shaykh Hamdan declared: In light of these firm principles, we made our decision to establish relations with the Soviet Union. This affirms our nonaligned stands and our neutral policy, which we have always been anxious and are anxious to emphasize on all occasions.

In conclusion Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid said: The establishment of relations with the Soviet Union at this time will widen the scope of our international activity and our constant efforts to increase the number of our friends.

Beneficial Ties Seen

LD152042 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] An announcement was made in Moscow that the USSR and the United Arab Emirates [UAE] have decided to establish diplomatic relations. The official announcement stated that the two sides will exchange diplomatic representatives at the ambassador level. Talk on the establishment of normal diplomatic relations with the USSR began a long time ago. The example of Kuwait, which has successfully cooperated with the USSR in many fields for many years, indicates categorically that the USSR bases its relations with all countries on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and non-interference in internal affairs.

It is by no means a coincidence that diplomatic relations between the USSR and Oman were established in October. Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman, expressed in his cable to the Soviet leaders on Great October Socialist Revolution's 68th anniversary the hope that the new level of relations between the two countries will facilitate the development of bilateral relations in the interests of the two peoples. A few days ago, a senior Bahraini official spoke on the inevitability of the establishment of diplomatic relations with the USSR. It is by no means an accident for observers to point out that there was every indication that other gulf countries would follow in the footsteps of Kuwait, Oman and now the UAE. All countries will benefit from this and not only the countries of this region, because the establishment of diplomatic relations with the USSR will undoubtedly widen the scope for the mutually beneficial cooperation and international integration in general. From this premise, the Soviet people welcome the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and the UAE.

UAE Delegation Head Comments

LD151837 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Interview with the head of the UAE Chamber of Commerce and Industry delegation visiting in Moscow by correspondent Sergey Yevgenev; given in Moscow 15 November -- recorded]

[Text] Dear listeners, an announcement was made in Moscow today about an agreement for the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the United Arab Emirates.

A delegation of the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry is currently visiting Moscow headed by Al-haj Abdallah [name indistinct], first vice chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Board. Our correspondent Sergey Yevgenev interviewed the head of the delegation:

[Question] First of all I am very pleased to greet you personally in the name of the Soviet radio together with the members of your delegation in the Soviet Union. The first question is about the event regarding relations between the Soviet Union and the UAE; the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries was announced 2 hours ago in Moscow. How do you view or assess this event in the relations between the two countries?

[Answer] First of all, many thanks to Soviet radio for giving us the opportunity first to talk about our visit to this great country; and second, to express our happiness and wishes for successful diplomatic relations between the UAE and Soviet Union in the service and well-being of these two people in all fields which concern both these countries.

[Question] Thank you. Could you answer another question about commercial relations; is there any potential to broaden these relations [words indistinct] and their development. How do you see the possibilities for this?

[Answer] Trade relations between the Emirates and Soviet Union are ancient relations. Naturally, the Soviet Union is one of the major industrial countries and we look forward to benefitting from Soviet technology particularly in the industrial agricultural fields. We also look forward to further cooperation in the exchange of trade between our two countries.

TRADE DELEGATION VISIT TO KUWAIT CONTINUES

Trade Agreement Signed

LD152137 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0430 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] The signing of a trade agreement between the USSR and Kuwait has taken place in Kuwait. Speaking at the ceremony on the signing of the agreement, Kuwaiti Minister of Finance and Economy al-Kharafi said that the event represents an important step in the further development of friendly bilateral relations. He also highly evaluated the consistent and principled policy of support by the Soviet Union for the just cause of the Arab peoples.

Received by Amir

LD161852 Moscow TASS in English 1824 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, November 16 TASS -- Kuwait seeks to further consolidate the relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. [The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah stated when he received a Soviet trade delegation staying here which is headed by the USSR Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Ivan Grishin.] Pointing out the importance of the coming Soviet-American summit meeting, the amir of Kuwait expressed hope that its results would promote international detente, the discontinuation of the arms race and the removal of the threat of a nuclear war.

During the conversation the sides touched upon questions connected with trade and economic cooperation between the two countries within the framework of the trade agreement signed recently.

PRIMAKON REJECTS ISRAELI TIES WITHOUT PLO ROLE

LD161440 Kuwait KUNA in English 1227 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Text] Geneva, Nov 16 (KUNA) -- The Soviet Union Saturday firmly rejected the idea of re-establishing diplomatic links with Israel unless the Jewish state was prepared to sit down with the PLO at an international settlement conference.

Soviet Government spokesman Yevgeniy Primakov and vice president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences told a Geneva press conference that the issue of recognition was bound up with the entire regional conflict.

"We would like to have diplomatic links with Israel, together with a regularisation of the Middle East," he commented.

However, "at this stage Israel's annexist-style policies prevents this," he added.

The Soviet position to the problem was first that all states had to respect the of the inadmissability of acquisition of territory by aggression.

Secondly, the Palestinian people must be assured of their right to determine for themselves an independent Palestinian state, created on Palestinian land.

Thirdly, East Jerusalem must be free from Israeli occupation and integrated into a Palestinian state.

Fourthly, all states must be guaranteed the right to security and independence.

The fifth Soviet point was that the state of war between the Arab world and Israel be replaced by peace.

Finally, a settlement must have international guarantees, provided by the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Primakov stressed that little progress towards solving the Israeli problem was likely to be made at the summit next week between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan.

The best thing that could realistically happen was an easing of tension between the superpowers, through the agreement of a framework of nuclear arms limitation.

This would create an international climate of confidence and a positive atmosphere for controlling and seeking out solutions for a variety of regional conflicts, he said.

PRESS CONFERENCE ON SOUTH AFRICA HELD

LD152101 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Report on 15 November Foreign Ministry press conference organized by the Soviet Afro-Asian Countries Solidarity Committee for Soviet and foreign journalists, with Academician Vladimir N. Kudryavtsev, director of the USSR Institute of the State and Law of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Vyshinskiy, RSFSR merited lawyer, member of the international commission investigating crimes of the apartheid regime in southern Africa; Solodovnikov, Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee deputy chairman and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Professor Blishchenko, deputy president of the Association of Soviet Jurists]

[Text] [Announcer] A press statement was made at the press conference by Academician Kudryavtsev. He said, among other things:

[Begin recording] [Kudryavtsev] Distinguished comrades, ladies and gentlemen. You are perfectly aware that over many years the apartheid regime has prevailed in South Africa and that mass repression has taken place against the majority of the population. Recent reports tell of the growth of mass popular protests against this criminal system of apartheid. In an attempt to crush the new wave of protests against apartheid by the population, the racist Pretoria regime is intensifying repression against the majority of the South African population, is continuing to violate human rights, is practicing a policy of genocide, and is committing brutalities, even the physical elimination of freedom fighters. This arouses serious concern among all Soviet people.

In an attempt to hide these crimes the government of the Republic of South Africa [RSA], as you also know, has taken measures against the information media, against journalists, so as not to allow the release of truthful information about these events and the mass protests of the population which recently spilled over from the African-inhabited townships. However, the Pretoria government will not succeed in silencing the truth, especially by these means.

It is well understood that the basic reason for the tenacity of the South African racist regime, its aggressiveness, and its continuing occupation of Namibia lies in the massive political, diplomatic, economic, military and other aid to the apartheid regime and support for it by the forces of imperialism, primarily the United States of America. This is being done despite numerous UN resolutions and UN condemnation of the provision of aid to the South African regime as being participation in the crimes of apartheid.

Everyone is familiar with the firm and consistent standpoint of our country in the campaign against racism and racial discrimination, and in support of the national liberation movement in southern Africa. I would also like to recall that in 1960 the United Nations, following a Soviet initiative, adopted its declaration on granting independence to colonial countries and peoples. Our country was among the first to ratify the international convention on the liquidation of all forms of racial discrimination; the international convention on suppressing the crimes of apartheid and punishing them; the convention on the prevention of the crime of genocide; and international conventions on human rights.

I would like to quote from our party Program, the new draft program, which is, as you know, being discussed by the whole of our nation. This draft stresses that the Party considers it its internationalist duty to support the struggle of peoples who are still under the yoke of racism and the victims of the system of apartheid. The Soviet Union unswervingly, strictly and consistently fulfills the resolutions and recommendations of the United Nations and other international bodies on economic, diplomatic and other sanctions intended to isolate racist regimes internationally. Our country has demanded and is demanding from other states the fulfillment of these provisions. [end recording]

[Announcer] The participants in the news conference then replied to questions from journalists.

[Begin recording] [Question] President Reagan made a speech at the UN General Assembly in which he noted that in the course of the forthcoming talks in Geneva he intends discussing so-called regional conflicts with CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, Comrade Gorbachev. These include the issue of the situation in sovereign countries such as Angola, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Nicaragua and Ethiopia. Why is Reagan putting the accent on these countries, and why does he not refer to the issue of granting independence to Namibia, the elimination of the system of apartheid in South Africa, the solution to the Palestinian problem, and the normalization of the situation in the Near East?

[Solodovnikov] The whole point here is that the United States, in particular the present administration headed by President Reagan, does not like the internal regimes of these countries, the social-political regimes. These countries reject capitalism as a social-political path for their development; they carry out an independent foreign policy course; they do not want to be subordinate to the United States and other imperialist powers; they do not allow military bases or training camps for terrorists and so forth to be set up on their territory; they are countries which carry out an independent foreign policy course they develop, and they have good relations with other socialist countries, including the Soviet Union.

But regional problems really do exist, and these problems have been created primarily through the fault of the United States of America. It supports -- as Academician Kudryavtsev has already said -- the racist regime which creates a potentially explosive situation in the whole of the South, even the whole of Africa, because it is carrying out aggressive acts, acts of aggression against the Frontline countries. Currently there are South African troops in Angola; they have made raids against other Frontline states. For 11 to 12 months there were South African forces in the western province of Zambia, against Botswana [as heard] that's where the danger lies.

[Question] Could you please tell us about the international commission on the investigation of the crimes of the regime of racism and apartheid in southern Africa, and in connection with this (?what can you say) about the role of the international community in the struggle to eliminate the apartheid regime in the RSA.

[Vyshinskiy] The international commission for the investigation of the crimes of the regime of racism and apartheid in southern Africa, of which I am a member, and which I have the honour of representing here today, is a form of public judicial organ of the Afro-Asian solidarity movement. Investigation of the illegal acts of accomplices in the crimes of the regime of racism and apartheid in southern Africa comes within its purview. It seems to us that this is especially important today. We all know that the evil in southern Africa is being wrought directly by the regime of racism and apartheid. But let us honestly ask ourselves: Is it only this regime? If we reply just as honestly to this question, it is not only this regime.

The regime of racism and apartheid in southern Africa commits outrages because it has accomplices, energetic and influential accomplices with considerable material resources. The international investigative commission is not an international court. It cannot pass sentence. But it can expose the illegal acts by accomplices in the crime, prove their guilt, and expose the accomplices before the law and the conscience of the peoples.

[Question] What is your view concerning the establishment of an international tribunal for the public trial of racist criminals and their accomplices?

[Blishchenko] It must be said that this idea was voiced several times during debates in the UN General Assembly, when the convention was being drafted on the crimes of and punishment for apartheid in 1973. It must be said that paragraph 5 of the convention makes provision for the possibility of setting up an international criminal tribunal. And the states participating in this convention can set up an international criminal tribunal with the power to consider and call to international criminal account persons directly culpable. This would mean not simply punishment for those individuals committing crimes in the RSA today, but punishment for them regardless of where they may reside in the future, for in 1968 the international community adopted an international convention on the nonapplication of date of limitation for such crimes.

That is to say the international criminal court set up on the basis of paragraph 5 by the member-states of the convention could punish such persons wherever they might be. Therefore, in reply to your question, I would personally declare myself in favor of the setting up of such an international criminal tribunal as soon as possible.

[Question] A question for Comrade Vyshinskiy. Judging by everything, the Pretoria regime intends to deal with the present wave of repressions. What is it banking on and what are the historical prospects of this apartheid regime.

[Vyshinskiy] The racist clique wants to drown the outbreak of demonstration by the RSA's African people in their blood. Indeed, it not only wants to do so, but in my view is doing so with the cold-bloodedness of a professional executor. All the military and terrorist power of the racist regime has now been brought down upon the heads of the opponents of apartheid in South Africa. You are aware that in June this year the racist clique threw the regular army into supporting the police in their outrages on the streets of the African towns and the African ghettos. In stating this fact we must not in my opinion forget for a single moment that it is a racist army that has been sent onto the streets. This means that its soldiers are depraved by the arrogance and conceit of the representatives of the white master race and by hatred toward the Africans as representatives of a race of subhumans. Their actions confirm this assessment. For over a year now the racists have been killing, killing, and killing their fellow citizens simply because they have a different color skin and what to possess in their own country just on thing -- human and civil rights.

Regarding the second part of the question relating to what they are banking on and what the historical prospects of the apartheid regime are, I would say the following. Nothing will rectify its evil nature. Apartheid is a crime against humanity, and it will not yield either to democratization or to liberalization, however much talk there is of this.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Apartheid is just as systematic and just as profoundly vicious as the institution of Nazism, and just like the latter it must be eliminated. I think that the honorable people of our planet will achieve this. [End recording]

[Announcer] The participants in the news conference also answered other questions from journalists.

MORE REPORTS ON MENGISTU VISIT TO MOSCOW

Trade Protocol Signed

PM151529 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Nov 85 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Protocol Signed"]

[Text] As a result of talks which have been held at the Ministry of Foreign Trade a protocol was signed on 6 November on trade between the USSR and Socialist Ethiopia in 1986, envisaging a considerable increase in trade between the two countries.

The USSR will supply Socialist Ethiopia with machinery and equipment, oil, petroleum products, rolled ferrous metal, medicines, and industrial consumer goods.

Imports from Ethiopia will involve a wide range of raw material commodities and products of the developing national industry.

The protocol was signed by C.K. Zhuravlev, first deputy minister of foreign trade, for the Soviet side and by Wollie Chekol, minister of external trade and member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee for the Ethiopian side.

Mengistu Thanks Gorbachev

PM131710 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Nov 85 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee

I want to take this opportunity to express profound gratitude and appreciation for the warm welcome and the hospitality shown me and the members of my delegation during our visit to the Soviet Union.

I would like once again to wish you good health, and the Soviet Union's fraternal people further prosperity.

Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Socialist Ethiopia.

U.S. USES DROUGHT TO 'BREAK ETHIOPIAN UNITY'

LD160104 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Georgiy Tanov commentary]

[Text] One cannot but notice the insulting and completely inadmissible tone of the verbal attacks against Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian authorities are accused of misusing the aid they get for political goals and even for fighting against their people. However, what's really at issue is the undeclared political war Washington has been waging against Ethiopia for nearly a year now. For American human rights advocates the effects of a violent drought are a superb chance to break the unity of the Ethiopians and set them against their government and the newly-founded Workers' Party. They also seek to discredit the ideas of socialist orientation in Africa and cut Ethiopia and other progressive African countries off the socialist world, above all the Soviet Union.

Right after the Workers' Party was set up last September Washington made it clear that it would discontinue aid to Ethiopia. But when it was that the socialist countries, some Western donors and the United Nations positively responded to Ethiopia's appeal for food aid, Washington began to pledge aid, too. But even during the first weeks it sought to exert political pressure on Ethiopia. It hinted quite unequivocally that the country's internal and external policies should be changed. At the end of 1984 and early this year Washington resorted to stiffer, openly hostile actions against Ethiopia. It boosted all-round assistance to the Ethiopian separatists in the north of the country and over the last few days American news media have on the whole been trying to oppose the north of Ethiopia to its south.

Not without Washington's aid, relations between Sudan and Ethiopia and between Somalia and Ethiopia got strained sharply early this year. With active Washington's [as heard] involvement, the former Sudanese regime and Tel Aviv perpetrated a provocative action as they called several thousand Falashas out of Ethiopia to Israel in a bid to set Ethiopia at loggerheads with the Arabs. And last but not least, Washington started an unprecedented campaign of malice against Ethiopia's policy of resettlement and its plans to rebuild and develop its agriculture.

An odd situation is emerging. The United Nations and its specialized bodies admit that the tragedy in Ethiopia is over and the country has coped with the disaster. They admit that the effective aid distribution system in various areas, those where separatists are rampant included, and the resettlement of hundreds of thousands of farmers from the disaster zone has proved effective in overcoming the crisis. They admit that the Ethiopian Government and the Workers' Party have drafted a real program of agricultural development. In the meantime, the United States has sharply stepped up its campaign of slander against Ethiopia. One may wonder why. An answer to this question and a proper rebuff to Washington's arrogant claims in the Horn of Africa have come from the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry.

The United States, as its President has indicated, is concerned over human rights in Ethiopia. But it would better tell the world what is taking place with Washington's support in South Africa, the Middle East, El Salvador and Grenada, turned into a colony. The Ethiopian leader, Mengistu Haile mariam, has denounced the U.S. President's speech in the United Nations as an attempt to regain the lost positions in Ethiopia and some other progressive countries. His speech was full of hatred for these states. This amounts to real meddling by Washington in the affairs of the states unsuitable to it, and attempts to hinder their free development.

BOLIVIAN CONGRESS URGES MORE BILATERAL TRADE

PM151425 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 Nov 85 p 3

[TASS report: "For Trade With the USSR"]

[Text] La Paz, 14 Nov -- Bolivian political and public circles actively advocate the development of trade and economic ties with the USSR. A special resolution adopted by the Senate of the country's National Congress emphasizes that relations with the Soviet Union are of tremendous significance for the Bolivian economy.

The document points out that scientific, technical, trade, economic, and financial cooperation between the USSR and Bolivia, which is experiencing an economic crisis has an exceptionally important role.

NICARAGUA ISSUES 'STRONG' PROTEST TO HONDURAS

LD151540 Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 15 Nov 85

[Text] Managua, November 15 TASS -- TASS correspondent S. Gorbunov reports: The Nicaraguan Government has lodged a strong protest with Honduran authorities over their complicity in bloody crimes perpetrated by the C.I.A.'s mercenaries who are staging bandit forays into the territory of this country and killing and abducting Nicaraguan citizens.

The protest note, issued here by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, cites testimony by Nicaraguan teacher Maria Mercedes Rivaz who has been able to escape from a Somozist military camp in Honduran territory and get back home.

The 23-year-old woman spent more than a year in counter-revolutionary captivity and had more than enough opportunities to see for herself the illegal support given to the bandits by American military "advisers" and high-ranking Honduran servicemen.

Rivaz told a news conference here of numerous visits paid by C.I.A. and Pentagon instructors to the "Las Vegas" Somozist base where they conducted conferences with chieftains of the counter-revolutionary rabble and jointly elaborated plans for acts of terrorism against the Nicaraguan people. It is also there, at "Las Vegas," that dozens of Nicaraguans are being kept in prison and subjected to brutal torture and humiliating treatment.

Rivaz saw mercenaries kill her girl friend and three Nicaraguan youths whose only guilt was being members of a youth team of volunteers teaching peasants to read and write.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry demanded that the Honduran regime stop participating in American aggression against Nicaragua and adopt immediate measures to set free all Nicaraguan citizens detained by force in the territory of Honduras.

U.S. POLICY OBSTACLE TO PEACE IN C. AMERICA

LD131059 Moscos TASS in English 1819 GMT 12 Nov 85

["Who Threatens Central America"-- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, November 12 TASS -- TASS commentator Rusyan Knyazev writes:

The best way for a thief to avoid punishment is to cry out loudest "hold the thief". The Washington administration has adopted well this method used by thieves and burglars which has become a saying in languages of many peoples. A fresh example of that is the report "On the Sandinist Intervention in Central America" which has just been distributed by the U.S. permanent mission at the United Nations, on the instruction of the Washington administration.

For almost five years now the White House has been waging an undeclared war against Nicaragua. Mercenary gangs are being armed with the money of American taxpayers and are being sent to the territory of that country. Mercenaries have already killed more than 11,000 Nicaraguans and wounded 5,000. Hundreds of schools and hospitals were wrecked, peaceful villages were destroyed. In violation of elementary principles of international law the United States announced embargo on trade with Nicaragua, planted mines in its coastal waters.

The damage which was inflicted by all these actions of U.S. state terrorism runs into 1,500 million dollars.

And after all that Washington propagandists have set the aim to present Nicaragua as "a menace" to Central America and to the United States itself. In their "report" attempts of interference into Nicaragua's internal affairs are being made once again, ultimatum demands are being made to the legitimate government of the Republic, the demands which grossly infringe upon its sovereignty. This is virtually a new psychological warfare operation. It is called upon to ensure a propaganda smokescreen to justify the White House-planned direct invasion of Nicaragua by U.S. troops with a view of overthrowing its government elected by the people.

But no contrivancies on the part of official Washington can turn down the obvious thing: the threat to Central America comes from the United States and it will be removed only when the White House ends the aggression against Nicaragua. As is rightfully stressed in the message from the head of the Nicaraguan state to the presidents of the Contadora Group countries, a just peace in the region can be attained only on the basis of respect for the inalienable right of all countries of the region to sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

SANTIAGO 'AMERICAN ARMIES' CONFERENCE VIEWED

LD152206 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0210 GMT 15 Nov 85

[TASS commentator Ruslan Knyazev]

[Text] Moscow, 14 Nov [date as received] (TASS) -- An unusual gathering is taking place in Santiago. The so-called "Conference of American Armies," with the participation of representatives of the armed forces of a number of countries of the western hemisphere, is meeting in a skyscraper on the city's central avenue, where the offices of the military junta are situated -- the junta which has taken power in Chile. It is being held within the framework of the "Mutual Treaty," which the United States foisted upon the Latin American countries many years ago.

One can already make a judgement on the nature of this gathering by the fact that it was ceremoniously opened by Pinochet "himself," the Chilean dictator, and the sessions are being chaired by his closest confidant, General Canessa, whom he recently brought into the military junta. A major role in this is being accorded to the Pentagon delegation. It is no coincidence that a special committee has been created at the conference in which the Pentagon experts are instructing those who have gathered on the "special role" of the U.S. Armed Forces on the continent, and in particular of their southern command.

For the United States, direct links between the Pentagon and high-ranking officers in the Latin American countries are an important channel for imposing regimes which are subservient to it. For this reason, it is using the conference in the Chilean capital to try to establish its authority among the military men of South America, authority which was seriously undermined as a result of the South Atlantic conflict in 1982. As is known, official Washington -- in violation of all its inter-American treaty obligations -- at that time entered into close cooperation with the British aggressor. This is again being confirmed in the course of the trial in Buenos Aires of the generals who were responsible for the actions of the Argentine Armed Forces on the Malvinas.

The facts testify that the White House is interested in further military penetration in South America, in the creation there of major NATO militarist bridgeheads. Such an outpost is being created, with its assistance, by Great Britain in the South Atlantic. For the sake of achieving these aggressive aims the United States is attempting to halt the course of history by striving at any cost to keep in power military dictatorships of the type of the Pinochet regime in Chile. It is no coincidence that it was precisely the Pentagon that inspired the doctrine of "national security," on the basis of which the dictators are waging a criminal war against their own peoples. And no verbal tricks of the Washington propagandists concerning "continental defense" can hide this evident truth.

GROMYKO ADDRESSES GORKIY OBLAST SOVIET SESSION

PM151135 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Nov 85 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report on 13 November session of Gorkiy Oblast Soviet with the participation of the party aktiv, addressed by A. A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium: "Raising the Soviets' Work to the Level of the New Tasks"]

[Text] Gorkiy, 13 Nov -- Progress in fulfilling the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution "On the Work of the Gorkiy Oblast Soviets of People's Deputies Toward a Fitting Greeting for the 27th CPSU Congress" was examined at a session of the oblast soviet held today jointly with the party aktiv. Taking part in the session was A. A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The drafts of the new edition of the CPSU Program and the Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and for the Period Through the Year 2000 have given rise to a new upsurge in efforts and energy and have met with the unanimous approval and support of Communists and all working people in the oblast. V. I. Semenov, chairman of Gorkiy Oblispolkom said in his report. The role of the soviets of people's deputies in resolving the tasks set by the party is, he said, increasing immeasurably. The responsibility for the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development and the further growth of the people's well-being rests largely with them today.

Socialist competition is gathering force. The pre-congress labor vigil is in progress under the slogan "270 shock days to the 27th CPSU Congress!" The Communists and deputies are in the vanguard of the competition. In the course of preparations for the congress the oblast's soviets are persistently improving the style, forms, and methods of their work and seeking to display a creative approach to the resolution of the tasks facing them and to make fuller use of their powers.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium also approaches the soviets' work with a high degree of exactingness. On 27 September 1985 the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium examined the following question at its session: "On the Work of the Gorkiy Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies Toward a Fitting Greeting for the 27th CPSU Congress." The resolution adopted by the presidium and the speeches delivered at the session by Comrades M.S. Gorbachev and A. A. Gromyko and members of the presidium note substantial shortcomings alongside positive features and give a principled and strict assessment of our work, the keynote speaker said.

It was pointed out that the activity of the Gorkiy Oblast soviets is far from fully in line with the demands of the CPSU Central Committee. The soviets and their executive committees have only a weak influence on the resolution of many tasks and are slow to eliminate shortcomings in the oblast's economic and social development.

The oblispolkom draws the necessary conclusions from this severe and justified criticism and seeks to radically restructure its work in the light of the demands made by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The times make it incumbent on the soviets, in directing the socialist competition in honor of the 27th Party Congress, to act on a larger scale, to be bolder in assuming the initiative in the resolution of topical socioeconomic problems, and to be extremely attentive toward everything that affects people, their needs and aspirations, and their labor, life, and leisure. The basis for a further improvement in the people's well-being and in our country's economic and defense might is efficient labor by every collective and every Soviet person. This idea was supported with concrete examples by the deputies who spoke -- Yu. A. Marchenkov, chairman of Gorkiy Gorispolkom; V.P. Menkov, first secretary of Gorodets Party Gorkom; S.L. Berdnikov, tool maker at the Gorkiy Truck Plant Production association; F.M. Mitenkov, professor at Gorkiy's A.A. Zhdanov Polytechnical Institute; T.P. Sergeyeva, chairman of Purekh Rural Soviet Ispolkom in Chalovskiy Rayon; N.S. Zharkov, director of the A.A. Zhdanov Krasnoye Sormovo plant, and M.G. Vagin, chairman of the V.I. Lenin Kolkhoz in Koverninskiy Rayon.

A.A. Gromyko then spoke. He said:

Dear comrades!

The present session of the Gorkiy Oblast Soviet is taking place at an exceptionally important stage of the preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress.

In party organizations and labor collectives and among broad strata of the country's population, the discussion is under way of the drafts of the new edition of the CPSU program, the changes to the party statutes, and the Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and the period Through the Year 2000 -- all the important documents that were approved by the CPSU Central Committee October (1985) Plenum.

It is no exaggeration to say that the most urgent, most pressing question of the socialist society's economy, policy, and social and spiritual development have been submitted for nationwide consultations. The CPSU Program enshrines the strategy and tactics of the science of victory and is the ideological banner by which the whole world judges our party and its deeds and plans.

All Soviet people are studying the preCongress documents with tremendous attention and grasp their magnitude, their profundity, and their significance for mankind's historical destiny.

These documents contain the real concept of the acceleration of socioeconomic development and of Soviet society's attainment of a qualitatively new state on that basis.

The discussion has only just begun. But even today we are witnessing the truly enormous creative potential which is inherent in our party's documents. They work actively for communism -- and not only in the domestic plane, but in the international plane too. News is coming in from all the continents that our party's clear, firm words are exerting a mighty influence on the course of world events, both directly and indirectly.

Naturally, in the course of the discussion of these documents the practical activity of all components of party, soviet, and economic organizations, is in full view of Communists and nonparty people. It is a question of urgent issues which are of concern to people, to every Soviet person, of unresolved tasks and existing shortcomings. Therefore it is very important not to allow a single useful thought or a single practical proposal to go unnoticed.

Our most important task is to react flexibly and with concrete action to criticisms and proposals and to adopt measures to improve the state of affairs where necessary.

The party proceeds on the basis that the nationwide discussion of the pre-congress documents will make it possible to enrich them with the masses' invaluable experience and will serve the further development of Soviet people's initiative and activeness in the struggle to fulfill state plans and socialist pledges for 1985 and to ensure an energetic start to the 12th 5-Year Plan.

It is in this spirit that the tasks arising from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution "On the Work of the Gorkiy Oblast Soviets of People's Deputies Toward a Fitting Greeting for the 27th CPSU Congress" are being discussed at your session today. That is as it should be.

The speeches were of a businesslike nature. One can sense a responsible approach on the part of the people of Gorkiy, anxiety about their tasks, and the determination to overcome difficulty. And that is exactly what is needed.

It is quite natural that attention was focused on problems of economic development, the intensification of production, and the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and questions of the thrift policy, the fuller utilization of reserves, the stepping up of the level of organization, the strengthening of discipline and order, and the observance of the rule of law.

The soviets are of great significance in this matter. In their work they accumulate and express the people's will, people's requirements; they combine statewide and local interests and give material form to the party's current and long-term goals, the goals of our impressive plans. The entire course of social development demands a real stepping up of the soviets' role and their responsibility for the state of affairs locally and for the resolution of key economic and social questions. Moreover -- and I would like to stress this particularly -- it is not simply a question of stepping up the soviets' activity, but of a qualitative change in the content and style of their work, the stepping up of publicity, and the development of initiative, creativity, and to a great extent innovation.

The party's principles are also embodied in concrete form in the activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet and its presidium. There is virtually no major problem of our country's development or Soviet people's life which is not within the field of vision of the highest organ of state power.

You know, of course, that constant attention is devoted to Gorkiy Oblast and Gorkiy City as a major industrial, scientific, and cultural center. Speaking at the recent USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium session, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev pointed to the sector's tremendous potential and its developed infrastructure and stressed the considerable contribution of the people of Gorkiy to strengthening the country's economy and defense might. At the same time he noted serious shortcomings and omissions in your work and set concrete, responsible tasks for the soviets.

Your city, which lies on the banks of the Volga, has glorious traditions. It would probably be correct to say that every Soviet person, especially if he is seeing this beautiful, majestic river for the first time, finds his heart beating faster.

The cohort of fighters for social justice and progress includes hundreds and thousands of names of people from Nizhniy Novgorod [former name of Gorkiy] who made a considerable contribution to the revolutionary struggle of Russia's proletariat. The names of many of your fellow countrymen are inscribed forever in the country's annals -- heroes of the Civil and Patriotic Wars, shock workers of the first 5-year plans, illustrious Stakhanovites, prominent figures in culture, science, and technology.

Your motor vehicles, riverboats, machine tools and medical instruments, and craft articles are known all over the world. Rural workers also do quite good work. On land, at sea, in the air -- everywhere the results of the labor of people from Gorkiy can be seen.

Gorkiy City, 4 rayons, and 23 labor collectives in the oblast were awarded Challenge Red Banners of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee for achieving high indicators in the all-union socialist competition and successfully fulfilling plan targets and pledges last year. That is, of course, good.

The names of production frontrunners are famed far beyond the oblast -- Heroes of Socialist Labor Denis Ivanovich Vershinin, Valentin Nikolayevich Vilkov, Timofey Grigoryevich Galanin, Mikhail Ivanovich Gogin, Irina Mikhaylovna Yegorova, Aleksey Ivanovich Zelentsov, Ilya Mikhaylovich Kozlov, Sergey Stepanovich Tsetsegov, and Vasily Vasilyevich Shabalin, full knight of the Order of Labor Glory Nina Fedorovna Zavarnova, and others.

I have been told that many of them are in this auditorium. Permit me to wish them, and through them all the frontrunners and innovators, new labor successes.

The plans for the first 10 months of this year for the volume of production and sales of output were in the main fulfilled. It is gratifying that in the current 5-year plan the entire increase in industrial output in the oblast has been obtained through increased labor productivity. Around 200 enterprises have met the 5-year plan targets for the rate of growth in output, and more than 235,000 frontrunners are working toward the 12th 5-Year Plan targets.

Changes are also taking place in the social sphere in the oblast's cities and villages. Rural depopulation has ceased, although it is not yet completely clear how stable this trend is. You are also doing much in communist education and in improving people's level of culture.

You all know, comrades, what significance the party attaches to scientific and technical progress. Science, technology, new techniques, and the latest achievements of human genius must be placed at the service of our economic and social development, the spiritual enrichment of Soviet society, and its advance toward new heights in building communism. Every working person in our country, whether he works in industry, agriculture, a scientific institution, or the party or soviet apparatus, must be clearly aware of the magnitude of this task, which our people are capable of resolving. That is how our party and its Central Committee see things. M.S. Gorbachev spoke well and forcefully of the significance of scientific and technical progress at the Central Committee Plenums.

Many collectives in your oblast have embarked firmly on the path of the acceleration of technical progress and the more rational utilization of the available potential.

At a number of plants sophisticated computers, automated lines, and industrial robots are in operation.

But let us be objective: There could be considerably more such enterprises. The potential here is far from exhausted. You have all you need to put forward new initiatives and innovations. To work in such a way that other people emulate you and follow Gorkiy's example. Your potential is far greater than the results achieved. Is not this indicated by the successes of many leading collectives?

Your oblast also used tried and tested levers and forms of incentives to economic and social development: These include socialist competition and the movement for communist labor, autonomous financing teams and the single job schedule, and moral and material incentive measures. As has been said here, practically all the labor collectives have become involved in the pre-congress competition. High pledges have been adopted. It is a matter of honor for the people of Gorkiy to fulfill the plan targets and pledges. And you must regard this as the main task.

In a word, there have been achievements. I was able to see them for myself to some extent when I visited the Gorkiy Truck Plant production association. But it must be borne in mind that these are ordinary achievements which have not yet become a qualitative improvement along the whole front.

That is why, at today's session, attention was quite rightly drawn to all that has not yet been done, but must be done. And you, the people of Gorkiy, should make stricter demands on yourselves in the light of your potential.

But the oblast has many problems. By no means all the plants, factories, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes have succeeded in achieving smooth, stable work. Here is an example. Since the beginning of the year 77 enterprises have failed to cope with output sales plants, including the Dvigatel Revolyutsiya plant and the Voskhod and Vesna production associations, while 94 enterprises have failed to meet target for increasing labor productivity.

Frankly, the figures are alarming. Nor are plans being fulfilled for scientific research work and the introduction of the achievements of science and technology into production. People at many enterprises are working with obsolete equipment. In the oblast as a whole the lag behind the control figures for the 5-year plan has not yet been overcome.

So that is the picture, comrades. Those who spoke before me correctly drew attention to the need for radical changes. What is needed is not simply an improvement, but a resolute improvement. Here it is not enough merely to repeat the general correct formulas and correct slogans. It is necessary to resolve these problems in practice.

It is necessary more boldly to bring into play such priority factors as the intensification of production and the improvement of the organization of labor, the utilization of the achievements of the scientific and technical revolution, the improvement of the economic machinery, and the strengthening of labor discipline. What is most important is to ensure smooth, productive, conscientious labor by every person.

The acceleration of our development presupposes the strict fulfillment of the functions of state and public organizations and all components of our political system. It is important to channel into a single stream the efforts of party, soviet, and economic organs. Only coordinated activity on their part will make it possible to attain the goals which the party regards as the pivot of its strategic course.

The role of the organs of people's power in all our deeds is great. The oblast has 652 rayon, city, settlement, and rural soviets and more than 28,000 deputies. That is a huge force. Under the leadership of party organizations, on the basis of constitutional powers, and making use of people's initiative and creativity, the local soviets are called upon to ensure in practice the comprehensive development of their territories.

Why is the question of this kind of development one of the most important questions facing the soviets? The answer is obvious. In building a plant or factory and developing industry, we must not forget apartment blocks and schools, hospitals and kindergartens. In investing resources in sovkhozes and kolkhozes and improving agriculture, we should at the same time build roads and clubs, sports facilities and stores. In a word, it is necessary to ensure a firm, unbreakable link between the economy and culture, labor and everyday life.

What specifically must be done?

Primarily, the soviets must make maximum use of their rights in the elaboration and approval of plans for economic and social development and of programs for the development and siting of enterprises on a soviet's territory.

In addition, it is necessary to make fuller use of the right to control the activity of enterprises under superior jurisdiction on questions of land utilization, protection of the environment, construction work, social and cultural services, labor resources, and production of mass consumer goods, and also in many other directions. The funds and resources of such enterprises must be more actively involved in the development of their region in accordance with existing regulations.

These enterprises, even though they are enterprises under superior jurisdiction, are located on the soviet's territory, and if the soviet exercises its powers in proper economic management fashion, then production will grow, the territory will develop, and people there will live better. Including those who work in these enterprises.

You already have examples of modern and effective comprehensive solutions. Yesterday we visited the motor vehicles plant. It has embarked on the implementation of the comprehensive production development program approved by the Politburo. It also covers the improvement of workers' living conditions. Much, of course, still remains to be done. But why not use the sound experience from now on, and spread it to other enterprises?

Similar experience also exists in the countryside. For example, the interaction between the board of directors of the 60th Anniversary of the USSR Sovkhoz and the Prokoshevo Rural Soviet is not bad. I was told that other positive examples also exist.

We must, of course, always bear in mind that enterprises are engaged primarily in the production of basic output. This is their main task. But it must also be borne in mind that even a small portion of "nonbasic output" from several dozen enterprises -- and they could run into hundreds, and even thousands on a countrywide scale -- could be of enormous help to the population.

It is necessary to utilize all the opportunities existing in enterprises under union or republican jurisdiction to increase the output of consumer goods, improve their quality, and develop the services sphere. This is also an urgent and immediate task.

It is within the Soviet's capabilities to ensure better utilization of heavy industry's potential in their territories for the development of the road network, enterprises and centers for domestic appliances repairs, and the provision of services to meet the population's diverse needs -- in short, for the development of everything that is commonly known as the infrastructure. Therefore, and I must speak frankly, I was very surprised by the situation in Gorkiy Oblast, which possesses a vast economic potential, and yet makes inadequate use of it for the further development of the services sphere. I don't want to be understood as recommending "squeezing" everything that is needed out of enterprises that are not under the Soviets' jurisdiction. This would be too simple. The Soviet is the master of its territory. And it must, as its paramount task, be able to skillfully conduct its own local affairs and utilize its own means and reserves -- to develop local industry, trade, the maintenance base, and the services sphere. And yet one-third of local industry enterprises in your oblast have failed to fulfill their 10-month plans for output deliveries. Is this not one of your own reserves? The situation must be objectively appraised.

Finally, it must be understood that we should not expect any easy victories. Success will materialize only when we have expanded the range and increased the volume of output, enhanced its quality, reduced production expenditure, and improved the working people's living conditions. This applies to the country as a whole, and it also applies to Gorkiy Oblast.

And now, about the human factor. Much is being said and written about it nowadays, and this quite justified. Yes, in actual fact, it has always been the determining factor. Karl Marx proved scientifically that man, the worker, is the most important of the three components comprising society's productive forces -- man, the means of labor (machines, machine tools, and others), and the objects of labor (raw and auxiliary materials). This is one of Marx's discoveries in economic science. To galvanize the human factor means to ensure that everyone works conscientiously and with total dedication at his work place.

Wherever man is the reference point, wherever all the conditions for his labor and relaxation -- for his life, in a word -- have been created, work is progressing well, labor productivity is higher, organization and discipline are better, and cadre turnover is hardly noticeable and at times even nonexistent.

Here I must mention the fact that hitherto the construction of housing and of social and consumer institutions in the oblast has been seriously lagging behind the creation of production projects. People working in a new plant and operating modern equipment are having to live with poorly organized transportation, no schools, stores, or movie theaters nearby, and inadequate numbers of nurseries and kindergartens. Is this a normal situation?

Unfortunately, the city still has districts in need of serious reconstruction, and housing that is below the standard of modern requirements. Serious concern is also caused by the fact that the oblast also has over 1 million square meters of dilapidated housing.

I can tell you that about 40 percent of all the applications received by the USSR Supreme Soviet from Gorkiy Oblast last year concerned housing issues. They included quite a few repeat applications. And the letters on these matters arriving at the oblast's local Soviets account for almost 55 percent.

A. A. Gromyko went on to note that, in addition, the construction of housing and other projects for social and cultural purposes is slow and below standard. The funds allocated for these purposes are far from fully assimilated. Comrade Semenov spoke about this sharply and correctly in his report.

Next problem. The CPSU Central Committee and the government recently approved a Comprehensive Program for the Development of Consumer Goods Production and the Service Sphere. It set large but fully attainable tasks for the country's party, soviet, and economic organs.

Our people are entitled to attractive, high-quality goods. Yet just look at the windows and shelves in your stores -- there is little to please the eyes. If I were simply a guest of yours, I would probably not mention this. But I am here in a different capacity, as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. And the matter of which we are speaking here is our common concern, the concern of soviets at all levels. The problem of the variety and quality of consumer goods, and, indeed, of other industrial output, is a very acute problem today.

Citizens also have many complaints regarding the services sphere, which is almost totally in the hands of the soviets. The work done by repair workshops, tailoring houses, and rental centers is inadequate. Citizens do not find it easy to get repairs done to their apartments -- both materials and skilled craftsmen are in short supply, and they have to turn to casual workmen. In short, the situation is bad.

The soviets must focus more attention on "bottlenecks" and issues concerning municipal and consumer services that worry the population, and must apply efforts and initiatives to putting matters right. Comrades, attention must not be given bureaucratically, chasing papers from one office to the other. After all, people are interested in specific results and not in formal replies and excuses.

Justified complaints are also being received in connection with shortcomings in the work of cultural, sports, and medical institutions, transport, and communications. It is a pleasure to note that construction of the first stage of Gorkiy's subway, the RSFSR's third after Moscow and Leningrad, was completed in time for the Great October celebrations. This is a major success. It is envisaged to further expand and accelerate its construction. It is, however, hardly right to forget the development of other types of transport -- they still provide the basic transportation both in Gorkiy and in the oblast's other cities, and particularly in the countryside.

I would like to speak specifically about road construction. This is also a "sore" point. How can it be right that over 40 kolkhozes and sovkhoses in the oblast still lack reliable roads linking them with rayon centers? I think that, given willingness and due persistence, the time you have allocated for their construction could even be reduced. How about trying?

The fulfillment of the Food Program, which is of paramount importance for the people, is also in the hands of the soviets. But you are yielding ground in this sector, and the output level of agricultural produce is falling. This is indicated by the figures cited here. It is well known that Gorkiy Oblast is basically industrial. But everything possible must be done to supply foodstuffs for its population.

Mikhail Grigoryevich Vagin, kolkhoz chairman and RSFSR Supreme Soviet deputy, spoke here and cited specific facts to show how this is done.

It is no accident that his kolkhoz is harvesting up to 40 quintals of grain per hectare. The results on the farms headed by Heroes of Socialist Labor Ivan Porfiryevich Zhelezov and Mikhail Ivanovich Treushnikov are not bad, either. And yet the farms next to them harvest only 10-12 quintals per hectare. How is this to be explained? I imagine that you yourselves can answer this question with certainty.

It is, of course, not easy for soviets to ensure highly efficient work by the agro-industrial complex. There are problems still to be solved, interrelations between all its links are not fully organized, the material and technical base is not up to the necessary standard, there are difficulties with cadres. But these are not natural disasters. The buck, as the saying goes, stops here. After all, the agro-industrial associations are directly subordinate to the soviets and are headed by them. This is why the results of their work depend largely on the activity of soviet organs.

You have an enormous industrial potential. It can and must render more effective assistance to agriculture. As for the current situation, you yourselves can judge its state by the store shelves and the market prices.

Concern for man is inseparable from nature conservation and a solicitous attitude toward the environment. If our atmosphere is poisoned by harmful gases, if forests are felled, and if rivers are polluted -- man will suffer. Citizens of Gorkiy will suffer, citizens of Moscow, Kiev, and Sverdlovsk will suffer, everyone will suffer. The soviets must be concerned not only with the material position of people, but also with the health of today's and future generations.

Much must be done at the international level through efforts by different states, but there is also much that we can do ourselves. You recall the interest with which the Soviet people discussed the environmental protection laws, and the enthusiasm with which they were adopted. The task now is to fulfill them accurately and to take short-sighted economic managers strictly to task for any violations. After all, certain leaders of enterprises and associations give little thought to environmental protection, and utilize no more than 70-80 percent of the funds allocated for this purpose. At the third session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the deputies placed before the union ministries a number of urgent questions concerning the improvement of environmental protection. They have been partially resolved, and some are still under examination by union organs. These issues must be constantly monitored, both centrally and locally. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium will also keep an eye on them.

To continue. Each soviet does and must watch over law and order and ensure that citizens' rights and interests are respected. This is its constitutional function. People approach the soviet on matters concerning their needs and requirements and, as a rule, find support there.

The party demands that all infringements of citizens' labor, housing, and other rights, no matter where they may originate, be resolutely and promptly extirpated. Yet such infringements in your oblast are far from isolated instances. I have been given much data by the republican Prosecutor's Office. Let me cite some instances. Last year alone, over one-third of workers dismissed at the administration's initiative in the oblast were reinstated. And this year the People's Courts have recognized that almost every second dismissal was unjustified. Why does this happen? This is disorder or, to put it more bluntly, arbitrariness by some economic leaders.

This is why it remains a topical task to improve the legal education of the population, and particularly of the leaders of state and economic organs who have to deal with people on a daily basis and make decisions affecting people's most important rights. Every one of these decisions must be strictly in line with current legislation and other norm-setting acts, and must, finally, accord with the morality of Soviet society.

The labor collectives must create a favorable atmosphere for honest and conscientious working people and must exercise the utmost strictness and exactingness toward those who breach discipline or produce substandard goods. These people are abusing our system's democratic nature, they are abusing its humane norms.

A major role in the sphere of boosting Soviet people's general culture and spiritual growth has to be played by the struggle against drunkenness and alcoholism which has been launched in the country. We are all witnessing the initial and, I must say, encouraging results of our statewide work in this sphere. In the country as a whole there has been a noticeable fall in the number of injuries, road and railroad accidents, and other negative phenomena occurring as a result of drunkenness.

At the same time, however, I would like to emphasize that the struggle against drunkenness is not a temporary campaign, but the implementation of the party's social policy. This is a task of major importance. We all understand that an ugly phenomenon will not be extirpated simply by directives. What is needed is daily, persistent, and thoughtful work by party and Soviet organs, trade union, Komsomol, and other public organizations, and enterprise administrations, including those in Gorkiy Oblast.

We still come across some citizens who say during the day that they are apparently building socialism and communism together with everyone else, but are unwilling to part with alcohol in the evenings. Soviet society must be healthy and sober. Soviet man is not just the bearer of advanced ideology. He must also be the embodiment of nobility, clear mind, and healthy spirit and body. In other words, he must be that man of the future whom the founders of the communist teaching dreamed of so vividly as an ideal.

Comrades, today the party and the state are stepping up the attention they give to the problems of the moral education of the individual. The question of a sensible and meaningful organization of free time which, in K. Marx' expression, is "a measure of riches," becomes increasingly acute. A person's free time is, after all, also spent within society, and society is far from indifferent as to how it is utilized.

The forms and methods of the activity of soviets, which include an aktiv many millions strong in their orbit, are extremely varied. I will cite just one figure -- over 2.38 million deputies have been elected to soviets all over the country. And this entire vast force must act energetically and creatively to fulfill the party directives and fittingly welcome the 27th CPSU Congress.

Regular sessions of soviets and the examination of the most important problems troubling the population at these sessions are becoming the rule. In my opinion, they must acquire additional urgency, a businesslike approach, and great publicity, and must inform the population more broadly about the questions discussed at sessions, the decisions that have been adopted, and -- most important -- how these decisions are implemented. Unafraid of criticism, they must react more accurately to the working people's remarks and suggestions.

The leaders of local soviet organs must visit labor collectives more often, meet people, listen to their opinions, and speak to them in the simple and understandable language that is the language of truth. Lenin's words must always be remembered: "We need COMPLETE AND TRUTHFUL [uppercase; words published in boldface] information. And the truth must not be dependent on whom it must serve." The people will then have even greater confidence in their representatives on the organs of power. It would be desirable for Gorkiy's citizens to be, in these matters, in the front ranks of those marking along the path pointed out to us all by Lenin.

I think it is clear to everyone that, when considering the conditions required for the total implementation of set plans, due account must be taken not just of our domestic potential. It would be shortsighted to discount the international situation which, as you know, remains complex.

The "Soviet threat" myth is as old as our state. Yet, as is known, we have attacked no one; on the contrary, we have been attacked. Taking cover behind this myth, American imperialism has mounted an unprecedented arms buildup. It uses various forms of economic pressure against us and our Warsaw Pact allies and wages an unbridled psychological war.

Washington is now gambling on the creation [sozdaniye] of space strike arms. It tries to mislead people and to pass off these arms as defensive. It lulls the peoples' vigilance with claims that the preparation for "star wars" is still just an "idea" and that only "preliminary research" is being conducted. Of course, there is not a grain of truth here!

Multibillion-dollar appropriations have already been allocated to the creation [sozdaniye] of space arms. All this is being done under conditions when talks are being held between us and the United States. Their aim is in accordance with the accord previously reached -- it is precisely to prevent an arms race in space and end it on earth, to limit and reduce nuclear arms, and to strengthen strategic stability.

It is natural that, in elaborating and implementing grand peaceful plans to accelerate socioeconomic development, the party's Central Committee, its Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the Soviet Government cannot fail to devote very close attention to ensuring our security. This is a constant concern. Like the concern for the further strengthening and the prosperity of our motherland, it demands daily, unremitting effort by the entire people.

It is necessary, above all, to maintain high vigilance and strengthen the country's defense capability in every possible way. Let him who wants to speak with us in the language of force know that he has chosen the wrong target. We will be able to make an appropriate response to any threat.

And undoubtedly the people of Gorkiy, who always display great patriotism in the defense of the motherland and its interests in the world, will spare no effort to ensure that with their labor they make a fitting contribution to strengthening the country's economic and defense might. The multifaceted nature of your industry will make it possible for this contribution to be even more weighty. Of course, all the plans to accelerate our socioeconomic development are oriented not toward war, but toward peace. They more than convincingly refute the fabrications about some kind of "Soviet threat." Neither we nor our friends in the socialist countries -- nor, moreover, any of the planet's peoples -- need war.

The whole world is now awaiting the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's forthcoming meeting with the U. S. President. Everyone is aware that much will depend on its results.

The Soviet side is not approaching this meeting simply with good intentions. We have put forward major new initiatives. M. S. Gorbachev spoke of them in detail during his visit to France. First and foremost, we proposed to the U. S. Administration that agreement be reached on a total ban for both sides on space strike arms and on a really radical -- 50-percent -- reduction in nuclear arms capable of reaching each other's territory. If our proposals were greeted positively by the other side, that could bring about a sharp change for the better in the world situation, strengthen strategic stability, and increase mutual trust.

The boldness and scale of the Soviet Union's new proposals had such an effect on the Western world that any discussion of the problems of disarmament and detente are now inevitably focused on our initiatives.

You know that at the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee session in Sofia the Soviet Union's leaders, headed by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary, and the other socialist countries' delegations put forward a detailed joint program aimed at eliminating the nuclear threat and ensuring a change for the better in European and world affairs. It is an impressive program. It is not detrimental to anyone's interests, and at the same time it accords with the cherished aspirations of all mankind -- the preservation of peace and life on earth. The socialist community countries are fully determined to fight persistently for its implementation for the sake of their peoples' happiness, for the sake of the triumph of peace, freedom, and justice throughout the world.

The USSR Supreme Soviet, following the Communist Party's general line, extends and strengthens its ties with the parliaments of foreign countries, receives many delegations, and sends its deputies abroad. We actively propagandize our country's peace-loving policy, and must continue to do so. Our foreign policy is in the interests of all mankind. That is why it enjoys the broadest support of our people and all peace-loving people on the planet.

Concluding my speech, I would like to say that all the comrades must correctly understand the purpose of holding the present oblast soviet session, especially holding it with the participation of the party aktiv. It is intended as an indication that matters must be put to rights in the city and the oblast. At the same time the party Central Committee, its Politburo, and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, personally believe that the party organization and soviet organs are capable of doing that. The oblast leadership enjoys the necessary confidence of the CPSU Central Committee.

I do not think I am mistaken in expressing profound confidence that the people of Gorkiy, like all our people, will greet the 27th CPSU Congress in a fitting manner, with new successes in the cause of communist building.

(A. A. Gromyko's speech was accompanied by applause.)

EDITORIAL ON DRAFT ECONOMIC GUIDELINES

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[Editorial: "Strategy of Creation"]

[Text] The Draft Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and the Period Through 2000, approved by the CPSU Central Committee October (1985) Plenum, have been published in the press. In accordance with the Central Committee plenum decision, the draft has been submitted for nationwide discussion and the results will be considered during the draft's final examination and ratification at the 27th CPSU Congress.

The draft Basic Guidelines are a document of tremendous political significance. As M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted in the report at the CPSU Central Committee October (1985) Plenum, "It is called on to materialize, so to speak, the provisions of the CPSU Program and translate them into the language of concrete plan targets in keeping with such a responsible stage of its development as the 12th 5-Year Plan and the period through the year 2000." Soviet people and Army and Navy servicemen are studying the draft Basic Guidelines with profound interest and warmly and unanimously approve the party's strategic course aimed at considerably accelerating the country's socioeconomic development.

The draft Basic Guidelines outline the peaks of social progress which our country has now scaled, sum up the main results of the country's economic and social development in 1981-1985, and determine scientifically validated prospects for our economic development.

"The 15-year period which our country is now entering," the draft Basic Guidelines point out, "is an important historical period on the path of improving socialism and building communism."

The steady development of the people's material and cultural living standard has been and remains the supreme goal of the party's economic strategy. The implementation of this goal in the period ahead requires the acceleration of socioeconomic development and the all-around intensification and increased efficiency of production on the basis of scientific and technical progress. It is necessary to raise production forces and production relations to a qualitatively new level, to fundamentally accelerate scientific and technical progress, to ensure rapid progress in the strategic areas of economic development, and to create a production potential equal in scale to what has been accumulated in all preceding years."

Proceeding from this, the draft Basic Guidelines plan the resolution of a whole series of interconnected large-scale tasks in the period through 2000.

On the first level they include ensuring the further development of the well-being of all strata and social groups of the population and profound changes in the labor sphere and in program, and increasing real per capita incomes by 60-80 percent.

Aims of implementing the broad social program require that production be transferred to a primarily intensive path of development, that social labor productivity be fundamentally increased, and that the rate of economic growth be accelerated on this basis. The draft Basic Guidelines envisage in 15 years increasing the country's national income by 100 percent, increasing industrial output by at least 100 percent, increasing social labor productivity by 130-150 percent, and making a decisive move toward realizing the program goal of achieving the highest level in the world in terms of this indicator.

One of the most important tasks put forward by the party is to ensure the all-around acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the universal application of its results in production, management, the services sphere, and everyday life, and to bring the national economy to the highest levels in science, technology, and production techniques.

The implementation of the prescribed tasks, the draft basic guidelines stress, will make it possible to raise Soviet society to a higher level of economic and social progress and the USSR will enter the 3d millennium as an even mightier, developed state which, by means of its achievements, will exert an ever increasing, progressive influence on the course of world development.

The 12th 5-Year Plan has a most important role in implementing the strategic tasks of the approaching 15-year period: It should be the turning point in all areas of the country's economic and social development.

"The main task of the 12th 5-Year Plan, the draft Basic Guidelines say, "is to increase the pace and efficiency of economic development on the basis of accelerating scientific and technical progress, retooling and modernizing production, making intensive use of the production potential created, and improving the management system and the economic mechanism, and to achieve on this basis the further development of the Soviet people's well-being."

The 12th 5-Year Plan must resolve simultaneously a broad range of tasks connected with improving people's lives, achieving the dynamic development of all sectors of the national economy, and maintaining the country's defense capability at the proper level. National income used for consumption and accumulation is planned to increase by 19-22 percent in 1986-1990. Furthermore, for the first time the growth of national income is to be achieved entirely by increasing social labor productivity. The production of industrial output is to increase by 21-24 percent in 5 years. In this context the processing sectors of industry will develop at a preferential rate: The volume of production in these sectors is to increase by 25-28 percent with an increase of 11-13 percent in production from the fuel and raw materials sectors. Labor productivity is planned to rise by 20-23 percent as a whole in the national economy with a rise of 23-25 percent in industry.

The most important tasks include the fundamental improvement of the quality of output and services provided, the intensification of the thrift system, the accelerated turnover of national economic resources, an increased standard of production, and the consistent reduction of manual and heavy physical labor.

The crucial political and economic task of the 12th 5-Year Plan is the all-around acceleration of scientific and technical progress. The draft Basic Guidelines speak about the need to ensure the resolution of that task and to resolutely enhance the role of science and technology in the qualitative transformation of production forces, in transferring the economy to a basis of comprehensive intensification, and in increasing social production efficiency.

The fundamental raising of the technical standard of production requires the restructuring of investment and structural policy and the concentration of resources in the most important areas of scientific and technical progress -- the development of electronics, the nuclear power industry, comprehensive automation, and techniques for the production and processing of new materials. Emphasis is placed primarily on the retooling and modernization of existing enterprises. Machine building and the chemical, electronics, and electrical equipment industries will undergo accelerated development. The production of the latest generations of machines and equipment and the application of progressive materials and technologies will be expanded.

The draft Basic Guidelines put forward concrete tasks in developing the production of construction materials, the fuel and energy complex, agriculture and related sectors, transport and communications, capital construction, consumer goods production and the services sphere, ensuring the harmonious economic and social development of all union republics, and implementing further progressive improvements in the deployment of production forces.

On the basis of the economy's dynamic development in the 12th 5-Year Plan a system of measures will be implemented to further raise the people's material and cultural living standard. Real per capita incomes are to rise by 13-15 percent. It is planned to increase the scale of housing construction and accelerate the social reorganization of the countryside. The population's supply of foodstuffs and nonfood goods will be improved. Assistance to families with children will be expanded. The minimum rates of old-age and invalidity pensions for workers and employees and of previously fixed pensions for kolkhoz members will be further increased.

There is a special section in the draft Basic Guidelines devoted to improving the management of the national economy. This task is topical today. It is impossible to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development without overcoming the inertia of outmoded working methods or radically improving the entire economic management system. Life demands the universal assertion of socialist style of management, based on such very important Leninist requirements as the unity of political and economic leadership, high organization, professionalism, competence, discipline, and each individual's personal responsibility for the task in hand.

The publication of the draft Basic Guidelines in the press sets commanders, political organs, and party organizations a responsible task -- to organize its study by all servicemen and to explain and discuss it at meetings with the personnel of military units and workers and employees of enterprises, organizations, and institutions. It is necessary to ensure that this discussion is meaningful and businesslike and is aimed at further strengthening discipline and order and increasing vigilance and combat readiness. Each serviceman must be thoroughly aware that concrete deeds, concrete efforts to improve the quality of combat and political training, and increasingly active participation in socialist competition for a fitting welcome to the 27th CPSU Congress are needed from him now.

The draft Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and the Period Through 200 is a document of tremendous inspirational mobilizing force. Fervently and unanimously approving the party's economic strategy, Soviet people express a readiness to implement it by means of selfless labor so that socialism's advantages are revealed increasingly fully and our Soviet motherland becomes increasingly strong as it travels the path toward communism.

RSFSR TO IMPROVE TRADE SERVICES FOR OIL WORKERS

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[Text] The Collegium of the RSFSR Ministry of Trade has issued a decision on trade services for the oil workers of Western Siberia. RSFSR trade organizers have named those towns and settlements in Tyumen and Tomsk Oblasts as regions to be accorded particular attention that are adjacent to oil and gas fields, to prospecting areas, and to construction sites for main energy and transport routes. Now the absolute majority of food and industrial goods are to be taken to these towns and settlements in full accord with the orders of the workers supply directorates and departments.

This is not the first time that the RSFSR Ministry of Trade has addressed the problem of the quality of services provided for oil and gas extraction regions. More goods are marketed here per capita than in other areas of the republic today. However, each check also reveals many shortcomings. The participants in the latest check, in September and October, discovered a number of instances where goods available in warehouses and bases were missing from the shops.

A considerable majority of the shortcomings in the provisions of services for the oil and gas extraction regions are caused by the weakness of the material and technical base of trade existing here. In towns and settlements there is a shortage of shops and canteens. There is a particularly acute shortage of goods warehouses, stores, and refrigerated stores. The demand for these is only 40-50 per cent fulfilled. The resources allocated for the development of trade and public catering are only partly exploited.

The specialists who visited oil and gas regions of Tyumen and Tomsk Oblasts, in their report to the Trade Ministry Collegium, pointed to the need to raise the quality of the work of some of the sections of the industry's staff and of the republican wholesale associations. The workers of these at times have very little idea of the conditions in which the trade officials serving the oil and gas, geological, and construction workers work. As a result, some sections of the ministry and wholesale associations allow formalism to occur in their review of questions asked by economic organizations of the Western Siberian oblasts.

In an attempt to improve the services provided for oil and gas regions, the ministry has decided to allocate workers supply directorates and sections belonging to a number of oil and gas extraction organizations and to organizations building oil and gas extraction enterprises market funds [rynochnyye fondiy] for the absolute majority of goods. This is the first time in RSFSR trade policy that it has been decided to change the practice of delivery of goods for oil and gas extraction regions. The market funds allocated to them will be used at enterprises enjoying the reputation for being the best manufacturers of consumer goods. Orders for clothing, footwear, and other articles in the so-called complicated range are to be distributed among the largest possible group of suppliers. Thus it will be possible to provide the shops with a sufficient variety of fashions and models of goods.